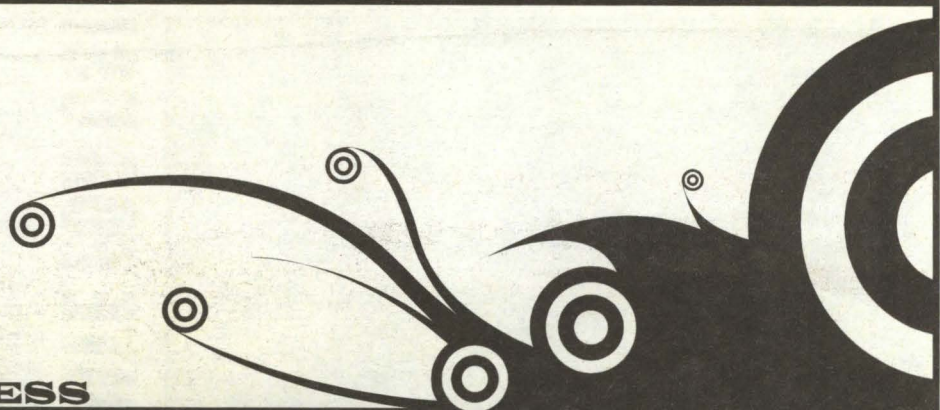




OTHER

PRESS



theotherpress.ca

the Douglas College student newspaper since 1976
Issue 13, Vol 36, December 1/09

Montreal Massacre

White ribbons remind us of
the horror and the legacy
20 years later

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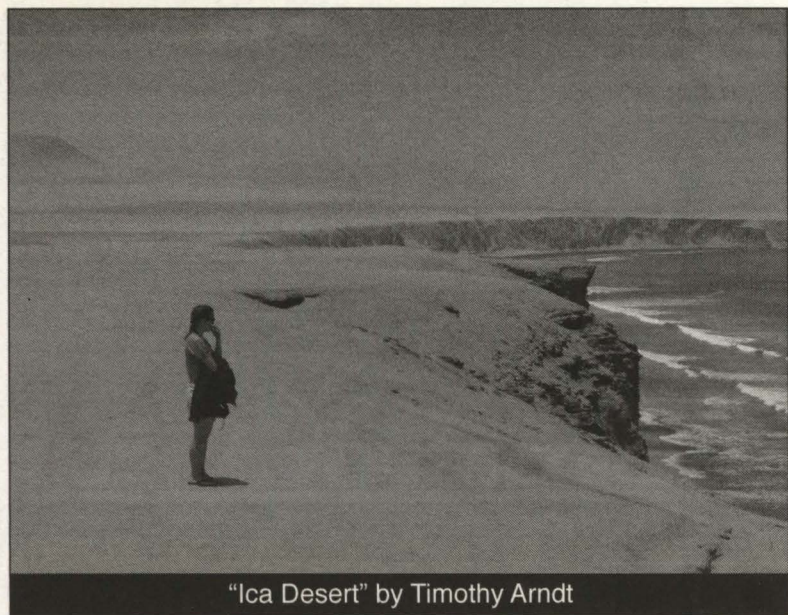


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"Ica Desert" by Timothy Arndt

Are you an artist or photographer? Send your work to editor@theotherpress.ca

WRITE FOR US!

Anyone can get published in the Other Press! Just email your story to the appropriate section editor from the list on the right.

Please send your file as an MSWord doc file, and include your full name, email address, and word count.

The weekly deadline for submissions is Wednesday night for publication the following Monday. Letters to the Editor and "time-sensitive" articles (weekend news, sports, and cultural reviews) will be accepted until Saturday at noon and can be submitted to the editor at editor@theotherpress.ca

Submissions will be edited for clarity and style.

The Other Press will pay \$50 to any student who writes an article of at least 1,000 words for the "features" section. Submit story ideas to the Editor in Chief. Offer good once per semester per student.

The Other Press holds weekly staff meetings at 6 PM on Mondays in room 1020 of the New Westminster campus. All interested students are welcome.

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THE OTHER PRESS

*Student Newspaper of
Douglas College*

PUBLISHED SINCE 1976

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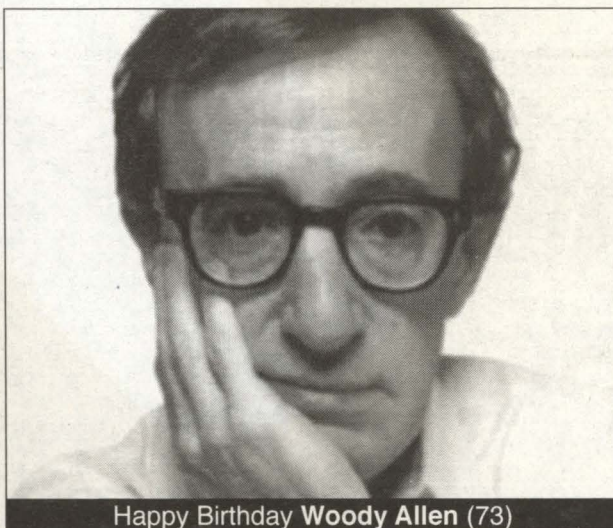
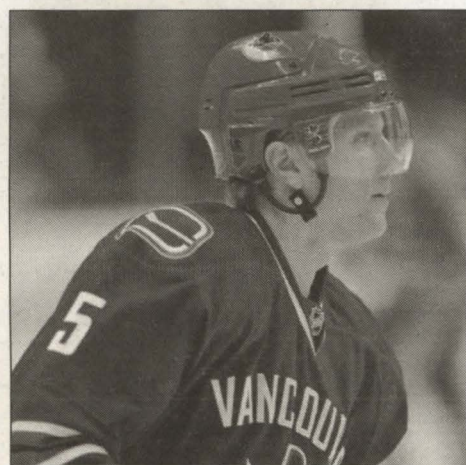
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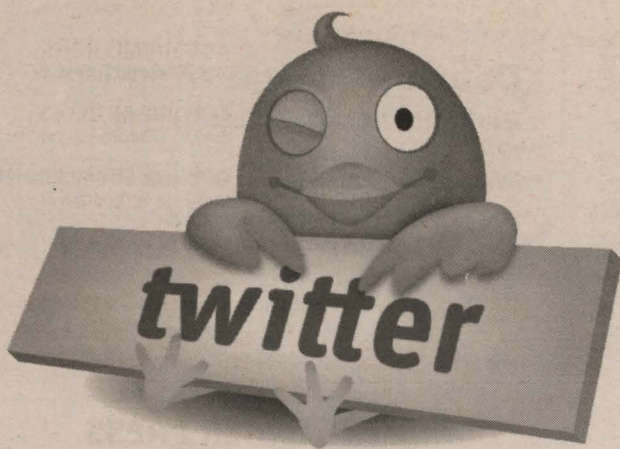


Happy Birthday Woody Allen (73)

WHO WE ARE

The Other Press has been Douglas College's student newspaper since 1976. Since 1978 we have been an autonomous publication, independent of the student union. We are a registered society under the Society Act of British Columbia, governed by an eight-person board of directors appointed by and from our staff. Our head office is located in the New Westminster campus. The Other Press is published weekly during the fall and winter semesters, and monthly during the summer. We receive our funding from a student levy collected through tuition fees every semester at registration, and from

local and national advertising revenue. The Other Press is a member of the Canadian University Press (CUP), a syndicate of student newspapers that includes papers from all across Canada. The Other Press reserves the right to choose what we will publish, and we will not publish material that is hateful, obscene, or condones or promotes illegal activities. Submissions may be edited for clarity and brevity if necessary. All images used are copyright to their respective owners.



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Follow us to stay up-to-date with what's happening at
the paper, Douglas College and around town!

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LETTITOR

So, I guess we torture people now



Liam Britten
editor in chief

My faith in Canada as a nation of decency has been deeply shaken this past week. Turns out Omar Khadr could be just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to our being complicit with torture.

The testimony of Richard Colvin, a former diplomat to Afghanistan, that all prisoners captured by Canadians in Afghanistan and turned over to Afghan authorities were tortured by their captors is as shocking as it is sickening. While other countries like the U.K. and the Netherlands monitor prisoners turned over to Afghan prisons and have the Red Cross conduct additional monitoring, we've simply been washing our hands of these people; we don't require the Afghans to provide them a fair trial, safety or anything really. Prison officials get a carte blanche from us to do whatever they please to detainees and it seems like every Canadian authority was either ignorant or approving of such actions.

To be fair, apparently Canada does inform the Red Cross about prisoners given to the Afghans, just like the British and Dutch forces. The only difference is process. The CBC's Brian Stewart revealed that alerting the Red Cross by Canadians consists of six steps: local soldiers inform local commanders about a capture, then local commanders inform central command in Ottawa, then central command passes the information on to the Department of Defense and Foreign Affairs, then Foreign Affairs notifies the Canadian embassy in Geneva (what?) who then tells the Red Cross about the prisoners. The whole thing takes a few weeks or a month, during which time Afghan prisoners are untraceable and their fates are known only to them and their captors.

Compare this to the methods of the British and Dutch forces, both of whom only have one-step procedures: local forces tell the Red Cross. The British have the Red Cross informed in 24 hours and the Dutch in less time than that. If these two countries can afford to avoid the red

tape and follow the international laws of war that all Western powers have been signatory to since 1929, why can't we?

The whole thing really doesn't look good for Canada, and it also doesn't help the cause for why we should be in Afghanistan in the first place. We're supposed to be nation building, right? But what kind of nation are we building? One that permits torture? One that allows complex bureaucratic shields to flout international law? What exactly are we fighting for over there? I thought Canada was a country that took the high road.

And if my arguing for the safety of so-called "terrorists" (who could potentially be civilians in the wrong place at the wrong time) doesn't make this particularly compelling for you, how about the safety of Canada's soldiers who have to deal with legitimate enemy forces in that country? Without the Red Cross or Canadians monitoring these prisoners, whether they let go or not is entirely up to Afghan prison wardens. That means that these wardens could theoretically be letting go the actual bad guys shooting and blowing up our soldiers and we would have no way of knowing where they went or who they are. It just adds to the threats our men and women have to face because our officials are either too incompetent or too sinister to follow the laws of war.

What this whole thing really demands is a serious government inquiry about who was in control and who knew what about these detainees. No more government smokescreens, no more Peter McKay and General Hillier calling this whistleblower a fraud, how about some answers? Like I've said, Canada's a country that has laws about how we deal with our enemies, even if our enemies don't. Our actions and behaviour in war have been part of what makes Canada great—it's about time we started acting like our old selves again.

Your friend in high fidelity,
Liam Britten
Editor in chief
The Other Press

THE OTHER PRESS IS HIRING

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Looking for a talented photographer to take photos at college events and capture college life on film.

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Please send a resume, cover letter and samples of photographs to editor@theotherpress.ca

Deadline for applicatans: December 1

B.C. committee calls for interest rate drop on student loans

Report also pushes U-Passes and specialized inflation rates

By Andrew Bates, CUP Western Bureau Chief

KELOWNA, B.C. (CUP)—University may soon be easier to access in British Columbia. A report released this month by the B.C. legislature's select standing committee on finance are examining recommendations on the post-secondary education system, including to reduce the interest rate charged on provincial student loans. The report also recommends an extension of the period where there is neither payment nor interest on those loans, and changes to some of the regulations that govern financial frameworks for universities in the province.

The 2010 budget consultations report was the result of close to 3,500 submissions from British Columbians, including presentations to committees, written submissions, and Internet survey forms. The recommendations will now go to the province's finance minister, who will decide whether or not to implement them into the provincial budget.

"I think we've made a number of recommendations that have some substance to them," said John Les, the Chilliwack-Sumas MLA who chaired the committee. "Everybody on the committee was obviously aware of the current fiscal circumstances and I think it's safe to say that the recommendations

we did make were made within that framework."

Post-secondary recommendations made up eight of the 49 in the report.

"[The committee] did appreciate that post-secondary is an important economic driver, and certainly the New Democrat members did make that argument very strongly," said Michelle Mungall, the NDP deputy advanced education critic, who also sat on the committee.

"Obviously we were able to make that argument very strongly because students, faculty, and institutions made these arguments very strongly in their presentations." The committee cited presentations from many institutions, student unions, and the Canadian Federation of Students in their reasoning for making their recommendations.

According to Les, the two recommendations about student loans are there because increasing access to education for all citizens was important. "The committee is aware that a large percentage of students never retain any long-term debt whatsoever, but I think it's more of a question about making sure that everybody has access to post-secondary education, and there are [people who] obviously do need to borrow to finance their education," he told the Canadian University Press. "We don't want the lack of money to be a limiting factor for students to access

post-secondary education."

Les also sounded a cautious note when it comes to those debts. "I shudder sometimes when someone says, 'I'm halfway to getting my Bachelor of Arts degree and I'm \$60,000 in debt or some such story like that. That to me is an indication of not having managed one's university career very well.'"

Mungall, however, did not perceive the situation the same way. "The student debt load in B.C. is one of the worst in Canada. Anything we can do to alleviate that pressure is not just good for students but good for the overall economy," she said. "It gets them spending on normal daily-life things like buying houses, buying cars. Those are important economic drivers, and if we can relieve the pressure that students have on their loans, then of course that means they're going to be able to plug those dollars in when they graduate into the broader economy."

According to Mungall, it was a recommendation that made sense to make. "It's just a no-brainer, and I think for the Liberals, how could you disagree with that?"

Another recommendation was called for the government to work to implement a universal transit or U-Pass program, where all students pay a discounted rate for an unlimited transit pass, wherever feasible.

"Schools in the [B.C.] Lower Mainland want to be included in the U-pass program and the NDP is 100 per cent behind them," Mungall said.

Currently, student associations

in the Lower Mainland, or greater Vancouver area, have been participating in a campaign called "One Pass Now" to standardize U-Pass prices across the area, and that campaign was mentioned in the document. "There are rural schools where it might be feasible, and rural schools where it's not. It's worth investigating it province-wide. The Lower Mainland has started something brilliant; let's see where else we can go with it," said Mungall.

Other recommendations included were to investigate moving university budgets and their grants from the consumer price index to the higher education price index, which specifically indexes cost related to post-secondary education. It also recommended researching how generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) might be keeping universities from taking out loans to build infrastructure.

The recommendations are now in the hands of the province's finance minister, Colin Hansen.

"I'm hopeful that all of the recommendations, even if they're not implemented right away, that they will be seriously considered and studied, and that ultimately we'll see some implementation on all of them," said Les.

"I shudder sometimes when someone says, 'I'm halfway to getting my Bachelor of Arts degree and I'm \$60,000 in debt or some such story like that. That to me is an indication of not having managed one's university career very well.' —John Les, MLA

Douglas College Wrap-Up

By Kristina Mameli and Eric Sangha

Winter semester fees

The deadline for winter semester fee payments is fast approaching. Monday, December 7 is the last day for domestic students to pay for the upcoming session.

For more information visit <http://www.douglas.bc.ca/application-services.html> or stop by the registrar's office.

Free dental cleanings at Douglas

Dental Hygiene students from UBC are offering free dental cleanings for adults and families in financial need at the Douglas College New Westminster campus. The service is being offered on Saturday mornings and cleanings are by appointment.

Call 604.827.4736 for more information.

Winter orientation

The Office for New Students presents Winter Orientation at both Douglas campuses. Orientation is a fantastic opportunity to meet people before classes start, to find your way around campus, meet your teachers, to learn about student services and all that the College has to offer.

Orientation at David Lam is December 15 from 6-9:30 p.m. and at the New Westminster campus December 17 from 6-9:30 p.m.

For more information, visit <http://www.douglas.bc.ca/new-students/office-new-students/orientation.html>

Be sure to look for The Other Press' staff on location too!

Sports science students and faculty seek Volleyball Retribution

The sports science faculty will be taking on their students for Volleyball Retribution, a volleyball fundraiser featuring great door prizes and great entertainment.

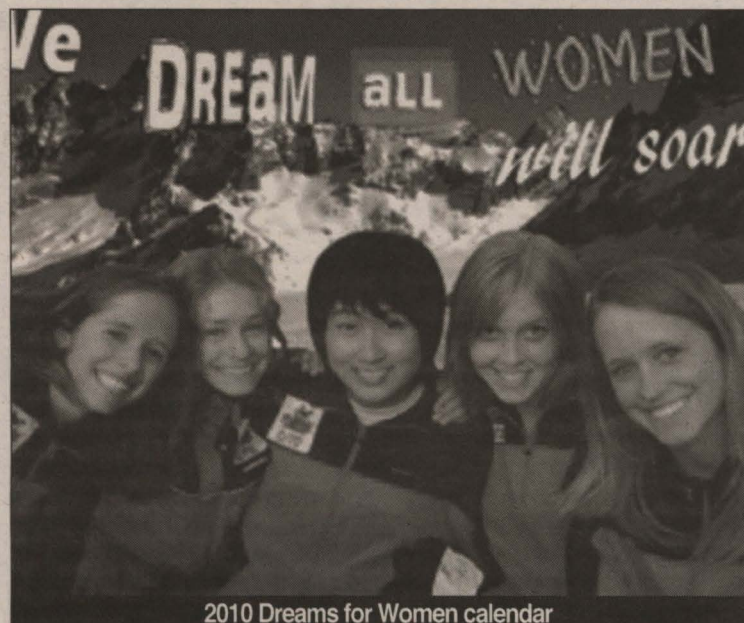
The grand prize is a pair of tickets to a Canucks game, although Giants tickets and other door prizes will be given away to spectators who come watch the students defend their title against the faculty.

The event will take place from 2-4 p.m. on Monday, December 7 at the new West gym. Admission is \$2.

University students create 2010 leadership legacy

Olympic athletes and students get together to support women's leadership in Canada

By Tanya Colledge, Staff Reporter



2010 Dreams for Women calendar

A group of university students from across Canada have brought together twelve internationally renowned athletes in a calendar aimed at raising money for The Antigone Foundation—a Canadian organization working to support young women's involvement in leadership, politics, activism and feminism. As an effort to leverage the power of female athletes, the 2010 Dreams for Women calendar will help the students raise money for young women's leadership training in Canada and to create a lasting social legacy from the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

Being a Vancouver-based organization, The Antigone Foundation wanted to do something special to commemorate the 2010 Winter Games and honour Canadian and U.S. female athletes. The organization decided to team up female university students with Olympic female athletes such as Robbi Weldon, member of Canada's Para-Nordic Skiing team and Angela Ruggiero, member of the

American's Hockey team, to get together to support this important cause.

"We believe the Dreams for Women calendar will be a great way to spotlight the importance of women's leadership with the help of these famous female athletes," said Amanda Reaume, executive director of The Antigone Foundation. "We were happy to collaborate with young women across Canada to make the project a reality."

Expecting to sell over 5,000 copies of the calendar, the foundation plans to use the profits to help fund "Dreams for Women Scholarship", an award given to young female leaders, and to sponsor a leadership tour across Canada providing leadership training to girls and young women. The calendar will be sold for \$20 and will be available on The Antigone Foundation blog or by emailing antigonemagazine@hotmail.com. In addition, the calendars will be sold at the discounted price of \$10 to non-profit women's organizations, in hopes that they will be able to use the calendars to fundraise for their own organizations.

Canadians see value, quality in post-secondary education: polls

By Emma Godmere, CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP)—Two new Ipsos-Reid polls released last week suggest that a majority of Canadians are pleased with the quality of their post-secondary institutions and agree that higher education is crucial for success.

When asked to describe the overall quality of Canadian colleges and universities, 71 per cent of respondents rated it good or excellent in the first poll. Only three per cent suggested that post-secondary education in this country could be considered poor or very poor. However, only about a third of Canadians felt the quality of the country's institutions had actually improved over the last decade.

The second poll focused on Canadians' views of the importance of post-secondary education as a tool for success: 78 per cent indicated that it will grow more important to finish a degree or diploma in the next five to 10 years in order to enjoy success in life. Interestingly, only 14 per cent of respondents said they were likely to or that they definitely would pursue higher education themselves in the next few years.

Additionally, almost two thirds of Canadians indicated that the current economy had no impact over decisions to pursue post-secondary studies. When those who weren't planning on enrolling in university or college programs were asked what reasons brought them to that decision,

only 24 per cent said that the cost of education was indeed an issue, while 35 per cent said their principal reason was simply a lack of desire to return to studies. Out of those who were intending to pursue higher education, obtaining credentials, career opportunities, and career advancement were the top three reasons to pick up studies in the next few years.

Each poll surveyed a sample of 1,493 adults online from October 20–28. According to Ipsos-Reid, results were weighted to balance demographics and more accurately reflect the makeup of the Canadian population. Before weighting, the survey's margin of error was estimated at +2.5 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.



Depressed woman's benefits removed due to pictures on Facebook



Tanya Colledge
staff reporter

When Nathalie Blanchard's doctor advised her to try and have some fun to help with her diagnosed case of depression, she never imagined that it would have resulted in losing her medical benefits.

Blanchard, a 29-year-old woman from Bromont, Quebec, has been on sick leave from her job at IBM for the past year and a half after she was diagnosed with major depression. She had been receiving monthly sick leave benefits from her insurance company, Manulife, until this fall, when the payments suddenly dried up.

When she called Manulife to investigate the situation, her insurance agent described that several photos posted on Facebook of her having a good time at a bar for her birthday and at the beach on holiday, were evidence that she was no longer depressed and was well enough to return to work.

Blanchard was shocked that the insurance company would look into her case in such a manner, interpret her photos and make assumptions about her condition. Furthermore, Blanchard's privacy settings on the popular social networking site prohibit unknown users to have access to the photos posted on her profile page.

Blanchard is now seeking legal action against Manulife

in an attempt to reinstate her disability payments and receive the estimated \$1,000 in lost funds since the ordeal began. The insurance company confirmed that they use Facebook in order to examine clients' cases because it is easily accessible information that simply cannot be ignored.

This case is a harsh reminder that Internet postings, no matter how many privacy settings you may have in place, are never truly private. This is not the first time that the social networking site has been in the news around privacy issues—users are warned to be cautious when posting pictures or personal information on their accounts.



The photo that cost Nathalie Blanchard her benefits

Free public skating rink re-opens after nearly a decade Thanks to a \$2 million facelift, the Robson Square rink is once again running

By Kristina Mameli, News Editor

After being closed for nearly a decade, the Robson Square public skating rink is once again open in the heart of downtown Vancouver. The rink officially re-opened last Monday thanks to upgrades worth nearly \$2 million.

The outdoor rink opened in 1983, but due to maintenance issues, was forced to close in 2000. As part of the \$40 million renovation of the entire Robson Square complex, which is currently finishing up, the rink was given a much needed facelift.

The rink has temporarily been renamed the GE Plaza after General Electric paid for about a third (\$700,000) of the upgrade. The name will remain until the end of the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games in March, until which time it will act as a centrepiece for B.C.'s activities.

The new surface of the ice is 37 per cent larger than

the old one and features a winter themed light show—blue lights with snowflakes floating across the ice. The ice will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week. Skate rentals are available for \$3, helmets for \$2, or free for children and the cost of admission is free.

Olympic Minister Mary McNeil told News1130 that she expects the rink to be open for three to four months a year, despite Vancouver's notoriously mild winters.

The first to break in the new ice was Canadian 2008 world champion figure skater Jeffrey Buttle. His performance was followed by a family skate with the Olympic mascots.

Free concerts as well as other events will be held at the rink during the Vancouver Olympic and Paralympic Games in February and March. In the meantime, the rink is open to those wanting to take a break from their holiday shopping and participate in their own winter Olympic wonderland.

News Shorts

By Kristina Mameli

H1N1 Report: B.C.

As of this writing, there have been four more recent H1N1 related deaths in B.C. over the last week. The deaths were spread out over several different health regions from the Interior to Vancouver Island.

The H1N1 vaccine is now available to all British Columbians following a lull in the vaccine's demand. Just over one million British Columbians have been vaccinated thus far and health authorities are urging the rest to get the shot to help prevent the third wave of the pandemic.

There are currently 109 severe cases of the flu in the province with a total of 34 confirmed deaths of which 29 had underlying health problems. That includes the most recent deaths.

For more information about H1N1 and the vaccine, see www.gov.bc.ca/h1n1 or visit the Vancouver Island Health Authority's website at www.viha.ca.

Supreme Court broadens scope of Pickton's appeal

The Supreme Court of Canada allowed convicted serial killer Robert Pickton's lawyers to broaden the scope of his appeal Thursday. The court gave no reasons for the decision which allows Pickton's lawyers more room to argue that his conviction should be overturned. Pickton wants a new trial but was rejected in a split decision by a lower court.

Pickton was sentenced to life in prison with no parole in 2007 on six counts of second degree murder. He is charged with 20 more.

Two Vancouver landmarks to be shut down...could be the first of many

The Vancouver Park Board voted Wednesday to shut down two Vancouver landmarks in response to a budget shortfall of over \$2 million. The children's farmyard at Stanley Park and the Bloedel Conservatory at Queen Elizabeth Park have fallen victim to the economy.

Mercifully, the farmyard won't close until homes can be found for all of the animals. Same goes for the birds and plants at the Conservatory which is slated to close March 1.

It looks as if the same fate may befall branches of the Vancouver Public Library as trustees try to deal with a \$1.3 million budget shortfall. They have already voted to reduce operating hours, staffing and budgets at up to 14 branches, and may be closing the Riley Park branch as soon as January.

Those decisions go to the council and will be open for discussion December 3.

Rogers Canada cuts 900 jobs

Rogers Communications, the largest wireless carrier in Canada cut 900 jobs Thursday—a total of 3 per cent of their 30,000 employees. The cuts affected mostly middle management positions nationwide. The company is based in Toronto and a spokesman said that the cuts were made in anticipation of other communications giants soon doing the same.

Harper to attend climate change meeting

A day after saying he would not be going to the climate change meeting next month in Copenhagen, Prime Minister Stephen Harper decided that he would be going after all. The announcement came Thursday from his spokesman after President Barack Obama and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao said they'd be in attendance.

The conference takes place December 7–11 and will include at least 65 world leaders. Obama will stop over on the 9th before heading to Oslo to accept his Nobel peace Prize.

Canada has faced international criticism for refusing to sign a new deal limiting greenhouse gases unless developing nations are included.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

Public invited to participate in remembrance events at Douglas



Kristina Mameli
news editor

As part of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, the public is invited to join Douglas College, the Women's Centre, the Douglas Students' Union and New Westminster MLA Dawn Black in honouring and remembering the 14 women who lost their lives on December 6, 1989 at Montreal's École Polytechnique University.

The 20th anniversary of the senseless tragedy in which a gunman targeting female students took the lives of those 14 students will be commemorated with a series of events taking place at both Douglas College campuses all week long.

Today, from 2:30–4:30 in room 1313 at the New Westminster campus, there will be a free women's self-defence class.

From today until December 3, there will be a banner to be signed in the concourse of the New Westminster campus.

On Thursday, December 3, New Westminster MLA Dawn Black, who introduced a bill in the Provincial Legislature to make December 6 a permanent National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women,



will be a guest speaker at a vigil starting at 10:30 a.m. in room 2201 on the New Westminster Campus. The vigil will also include a remembrance video.

Also on the 3rd at the New Westminster campus, a guest speaker from the Battered Women's Centre of Vancouver will be on hand from 1–3 p.m. in room 2804.

On Monday, December 7, the David Lam campus will host a vigil starting at 11 a.m. in the Atrium.

A free, artist-facilitated community event to remember the women and girls who have been murdered around the world, hosted by ROSE (Remember Our Sisters Everywhere), will take place on Sunday, December 6 at Thornton Park on Main Street and Terminal Avenue in downtown Vancouver. The park is the site of the women's monument Marker of Change.

MP Hedy Fry will be the event's mistress of ceremonies. The event is intended to contribute to a shift in Canadian consciousness and to help people move from denial to healing and societal change, according to the group's press release. Attendees are asked to gather at 10:30am for a ceremony which commences at 11. In the release, the group also mentions that in the lead up to the event, the ROSE website Dialogue Forum will be used to facilitate the exchange of ideas, information and cultural

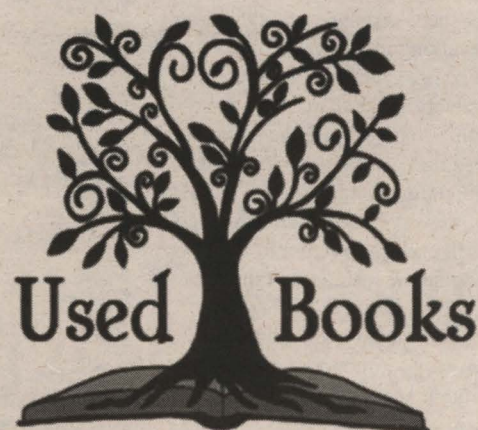
expression surrounding the loss of women in society. The forum can be found at <http://www.rememberoursisterseverywhere.com/forum/topics/creative-process-for-december>.

For more information, or to volunteer, contact rememberoursisterseverywhere@gmail.com.

Douglas graduate reaches her dreams

The opening of a bookstore marks another dream that has come to fruition for this Douglas grad

TOMES & TALES



By Knowlton Thomas

Nicole Skutelnik graduated from Douglas College in 2008—and has already reached her dreams.

"It all started when I read the first chapter of the first Harry Potter book when I was 12 years old." At that point, Nicole knew her love for reading would direct her career. But she didn't know it would happen so fast.

Less than two years after graduating from Douglas' Print Futures: Professional Writing diploma program in April of 2008, Nicole is poised to accomplish all the long-term goals she had set for herself prior.

"I always said that I wanted to write novels, open my own used book store, and write book reviews for kids," Nicole says. "I graduated in 2008. And already I have done every single one of those." Well, not quite. Her bookstore, Tomes and Tales, isn't open until December 5, but that's close enough. Nicole says the original plan wasn't

to set up shop until after retirement, but "the opportunity came a little sooner than expected... [it] was the next piece of the puzzle."

Although she already has published kid's books under her belt thanks to the Douglas program's work experience, the bookstore won't restrain her eternal passion for writing. "I can write while I'm at the store," she explained. "It's the perfect set up."

Nicole owes much of her successes to her time at Douglas. "Print Futures was so much more than a writing program," she says. "I see the effects of that program in my everyday life. It has helped me during the writing and editing process of my novel; it has helped me to understand the competitive nature of the writing world; and it has helped me in the business world. But more than anything, it showed me how to approach the real world with confidence."

Douglas has got her this far. Now she

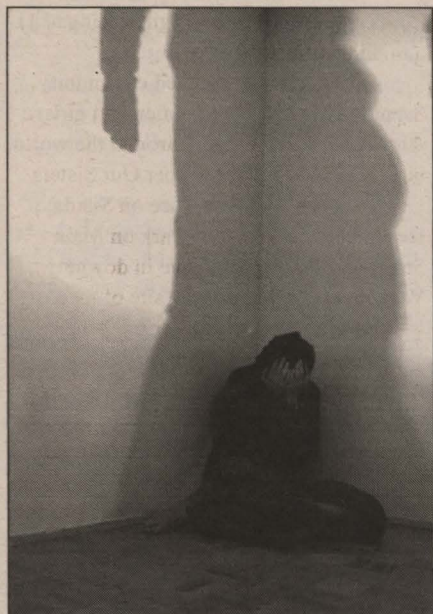
must up the ante of her business-savvy and keep the store afloat. How? Nicole says there will be the incorporation of other products like sterling silver jewellery, handmade cards and journals, metaphysical gifts, magazines, and some scrapbooking supplies. On top of that, Nicole says, "I don't have wall-to-wall books. Instead, there's room to move and it's wheelchair accessible. I have a fireplace and chair [and] a chair in the kids' room, along with a train table for little ones to play with while their parents shop."

As Nicole reflected on the journey she took while studying at Douglas, she offered some sound advice to students with ambitious aspirations: "Focus on your dreams, and don't listen to the people who tell you they're impossible. Face rejection head on, and keep trying." She says that the only way to achieve your dreams is to work toward them every day of your life—even in college.

Tomes and Tales is located in Pitt Meadows (Unit 103–19141 Ford Road) and officially opens December 5 at 10 a.m. (and closes at 6 p.m.). Visit the bookstore's official website at www.tomesandtales.com. Read the interview with Nicole in full at www.knowltonthomas.wordpress.com.

Advocating the equality of women within society, while making them victims in their own homes

By Kirandeep Sidhu



It was Monday and we had just returned from another weekend, but as I saw her I wondered how her weekend must have been. It had been a week since she had confided in me and told me about the violent beatings, and since then I had wondered how she must have felt when she first witnessed it.

She was only nine the first night when she woke up to the sounds of crying and yelling coming from the bedroom across the hall. When she walked down the dark

hallway she told me how she found her mother on the floor and her father hovering over her. She asked him, "Why is mommy crying" and he told her, "Oh, it's nothing, we were just talking, you go back to sleep." However, she could not leave her mother there so, she took her mother's hand and they both went to bed together and that night her life changed forever.

After that night it had become a weekend ritual to hear the screaming and crying before going to bed. The night usually started the same way her father would come home, grab a drink, and look for any excuse to be angry with her mother so that he could have a reason to beat her that night. Her mother quietly took the abuse, sometimes by getting slapped while other times by getting slammed into a wall. Although each night is like a part of the puzzle in her mind, she remembers the nights when her mother, brother, and she would hide in a corner of the house so that he could not find them.

Some days, she hoped that he would not return home so that they could save her just that one time. Other days, she remembers trying to make her mother see reason, that it would be better to go their separate ways and that her brother and she would go with their mother. However, her

mother's only weakness was that she could not break free from the norms of society and make the decision to live her life free of abuse.

Many years have gone by and she has gathered the courage to share her story with me. Now, whenever I see her, I wonder how difficult it would have been for a nine year old child to watch her father abuse her mother and not be able to do anything to stop it.

In a society where we are claiming to be modern and civil, why are we allowing

"In a society where we are claiming to be modern and civil, why are we allowing women to still be abused at the hands of their spouses?"

women to still be abused at the hands of their spouses? We're

supposed to live in a world that equally values men and women, but this is not true. We still give men more value than women, which in turn gives them more power to treat women in any way they choose. However, we tend to forget that along with the couple that is involved, there are also usually innocent children involved.

Although we advocate against many things such as drugs, drinking and driving, and violence in video games, why do we forget to mention family violence as a dangerous factor that is affecting the lives of many children today? I would never have thought about how spousal abuse affects children unless she had shared her story

with me because unlike the other crimes in society, it is not advertised in newspapers or on television until somebody loses their life. I only remember hearing about how a man killed his wife or reading headlines involving the death of a wife at the hands of her husband, but never the mere reporting of abuse by the victim while they were still alive. The media does not report the abuse and only brings it to light when someone loses their life. I do not recall ever hearing anyone in society talk about how we should address this issue or how we should help the victims report it so that it doesn't occur again.

Instead of supporting the victims and helping them deal with their circumstances, we make the women feel like it is their own fault if this happens to them. If they do gather the courage to report it, our society doesn't take any action against the offender. I feel that in a society that advocates equality, we are actually ignoring the unjust and unequal treatment that many women are facing today due to their gender. Unless we all come together and address this issue, women will continue to be victims of abuse in their own homes at the hands of their own husbands, and many children will continue to live in fear within their own homes—the place that we teach them to turn to for safety.

Fuming? Nodding? Tell us what you think; contact opinions@theotherpress.ca with your opinions about this or any other article

Climate change talks postponed

Copenhagen Conference delayed for up to a year



By Trevor Doré, Opinions Editor

It was announced in late November that the Copenhagen UN Climate Conference, which was scheduled for this December, would be postponed for up to a year. The aim of the conference was to bring governments from around the world together to sign a legally binding treaty to reduce the impacts of global climate change. Some have referred to the conference as "the last chance to prevent 'catastrophic' climate change."

Bringing the political powers of the world together on the same page of any issue is complex and the climate is no different. There have been many reasons stated for the delay. One has been that some of the countries are simply not ready to sign a legally binding document. Others fault the nations responsible for the majority of harmful emissions for dragging their heels in attempts to prevent legally binding reductions.

Basically, it comes down to what

scientist Garrett Hardin referred to as "the tragedy of the commons." The term refers to a dilemma in which multiple individuals—in this case the nations of the world—act to satisfy their own self-interest—economic growth—while ultimately depleting a shared limited resource—the environment—even though it is clear that it is not in anyone's long-term interest for this to happen—multitude of scientific evidence on the negative impacts of climate change. Why should one nation change if others refuse to? It is this mentality that is preventing any sort of considerable action on the climate change front.

Although there will be no signing of a legally binding treaty, delegates from around the world will come together to discuss a "politically binding" agreement. These agreements will include specific targets and timetables for greenhouse gas emissions cuts and money to support developing countries.

Unfortunately, politically binding agreements have a history of holding little weight. Somewhat like voluntary compliance, it is left up to the discretion of each individual government to meet the targets. No real ramifications exist if the targets aren't met, which brings us back to the dilemma of the commons.

Governments can put talks and agreements on hold, but nothing can put a hold on climate change.

Fuming? Nodding? Tell us what you think; contact opinions@theotherpress.ca with your opinions about this or any other article

Water shortages: taking our water for granted

By Trevor Doré, Opinions Editor

With the recent record rainfall we have been experiencing in the Lower Mainland, it is hard to believe that fresh water can be a scarce resource. Every winter in the Lower Mainland, it rains for days and sometimes even months on end. While some might not think so, we truly are fortunate to live in a location of the world that provides us with an abundance of fresh water in the fall, winter and spring.

Throughout most of Metro Vancouver, this rainwater fills the watershed reservoirs that provide the water that is essential to our lifestyle. All of the water that comes from these watersheds is treated and rendered drinkable. The water is then pumped to our hoses, sinks, showers and toilets. Turn on a tap or flush the toilet and the water is there. One can turn the tap on and leave it on with absolutely no repercussions—the water continues to flow.

In many parts of the world, the story is much different. People spend large parts of their day walking to fetch water. They don't have the luxury of turning on a tap, taking a hot shower or flushing the toilet. The closest we come to water shortages in B.C. (and don't get me wrong, we don't come anywhere close to this) is in the summertime, when we have lawn sprinkling regulations.

In the summer months when the sun is shining and the rain clouds are distant memories, the watershed reservoirs that were once overflowing with water start to drain down. We continue to use the fresh water from the reservoirs to clean our

clothes and flush our toilets. We inundate our lawns, wash our cars and water our gardens. After all, you have got to have a lush green lawn and a shiny car. The only real difference during the summer is you can only sprinkle on certain days.

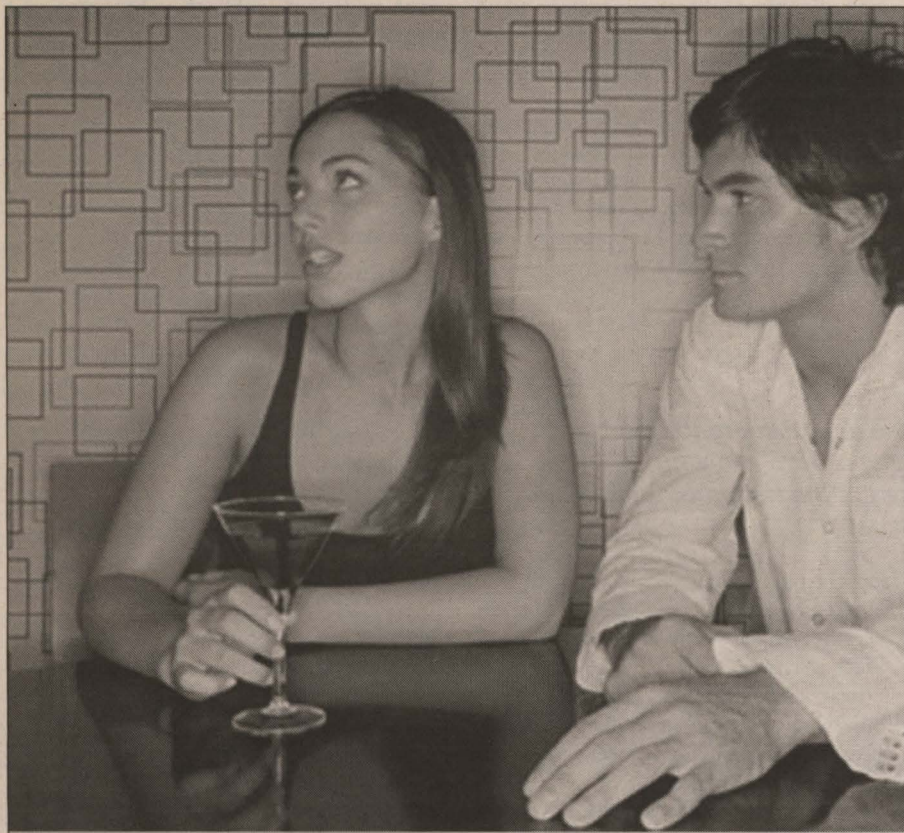
In arid parts of the world, water conservation is built in. Drinkable water is used for drinking. Rainwater is collected in rain barrels to use for watering lawns and gardens. Houses are built with grey water systems. The systems allow water to be reused and recycled before it is flushed down the drain. In these places, water is scarce and the infrastructure and residents lifestyles reflect this.

A lot can be done on the individual level to conserve water without a lifestyle compromise. Shorter showers and making sure that the dishwasher and washing machine are full before running a cycle are two simple things that can be done. During the summer, a rain barrel can be used to water the grass and garden. Now, I am not necessarily saying "If it's yellow let it mellow," or completely abstain from showering, but perhaps, we need to think a bit about how we use our water.

Often we take things that come to us in abundance for granted—it's natural. It is hard to believe that fresh water is a scarce resource when it rains for days on end. However, it is good to remember that this water is essential to life.

So while day after day of rainy weather may seem like a drag, remember, it could be a lot worse. It is this water that allows us to live way we do and provides us with the beautiful environment that we call home.

Bad dates, or, when can I leave?



By Stephanie Trembath

In today's modern world, our generation is comprised of selfish indulgences and easily accessible pleasures. The fast-paced attitude most Vancouverites have adopted extends to almost every area of our lives, which unfortunately includes our relationships.

In 2009 alone an estimated 2.9 million British Columbians used online dating services on a monthly basis to connect and meet singles much like themselves. With hundreds of different dating sites to choose from, and thousands of different dating tips offered on the internet, our North American culture has embraced an attitude that makes the most of our precious time regardless of the other person involved.

Dating, defined as a social appointment, engagement, or occasion arranged beforehand with another person, has come to mean so much more in our society. Getting ready for a date may take hours. For women, an appropriate outfit that isn't too sexy but still attractively alluring may be changed multiple times and charged on numerous credit cards. Choosing exactly where to go and what to do on a date is just as troublesome, which is why online dating took over.

I however do not believe in online dating. I think it is as helpful as it is deceptive. Dating should be fun and exciting, especially for students to assist in relieving ourselves of the stress surrounding school.

I embrace the fast-paced attitude of most Vancouverites and the busy schedule of a working student, which makes dating a little bit harder. Dating is time consuming and if you're on a terrifically bad date, it is a complete waste of time. This leads me to my question: if you happen to be on a bad date exactly how long do you have to stay?

Saturday night I had changed my outfit the expected million times, spent an hour touching up my hair, and worried about wearing too much makeup or too high heels. Finally, I set out to Vancouver to meet up with my date, where we compromised: I had

to watch a sporting event and he had to meet my friends.

It took me exactly two hours to realize that this person was definitely not my type and that I never wanted to see him again, but I had absolutely no idea how to politely leave without pulling the typical "I forgot to feed my dog" line. When free time is so rare and Saturday night only comes once a week, spending it with someone you barely know to NOT enjoy yourself is absolutely unnecessary and absurd. No matter how rude it was, I left; it was only nine o'clock and I was free to enjoy the remainder of my night.

I realize this was incredibly selfish, but without initiating in online dating how else is it possible to get to know a person and meet someone you like? Everyone is busy, everyone has commitments, but really, if I am not having a good time should I have to sit and endure my date much like getting a tooth pulled at the dentist? If you know right away that things are not going to work, is it that wrong to say so and go your separate ways? You're doing the other person a favour as well.

A few tips for guys:

Do not pick up the bill and announce, "God, your drink was expensive" and then put it face up in front of your date, especially if you have consumed three beers compared to her one martini.

Do not spend the entire night talking about man's descent from outer space and the evolution of aliens. The discussion of Scientology is a bit heavy for a first date, unless you look like Tom Cruise.

And do not leave all your sweaty gym gear in the car and then sit and talk about how badly it smells. I know how badly it smells—I am sitting right beside it!

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Kindle now available in Canada

Could electronic books replace textbooks?



Trevor Doré
opinions editor

Last week, Amazon announced that the Kindle, its popular electronic book would now be available in Canada. This announcement got me thinking: what is the potential for electronic books to someday replace traditional books in an academic context?

Any and every student is familiar with the textbook burdens that are inherent to student life. Every semester we shell out copious amounts of money for brand new textbooks that we use over the course of the semester and then proceed to lumber them around from class to class. Once finals are finished, so are the books. Traditional books have been around for ages and they go hand in hand with education. We don't often stop to ponder their necessity because it is common sense. But is there a more suitable alternative?

This is where the Kindle comes in. The Kindle was originally released in the United States two years ago. The electronic book is comparable in thickness to that of a magazine and lighter than the average paperback. Amazon offers over 360,000 books to choose from and one Kindle can hold up to 1,500 books at a time. The battery allows for up to one week of reading on a single charge.

Could electronic books replace traditional books, making traditional paper and ink a thing of the past? Electronic books are lighter than traditional books and because one book can store thousands

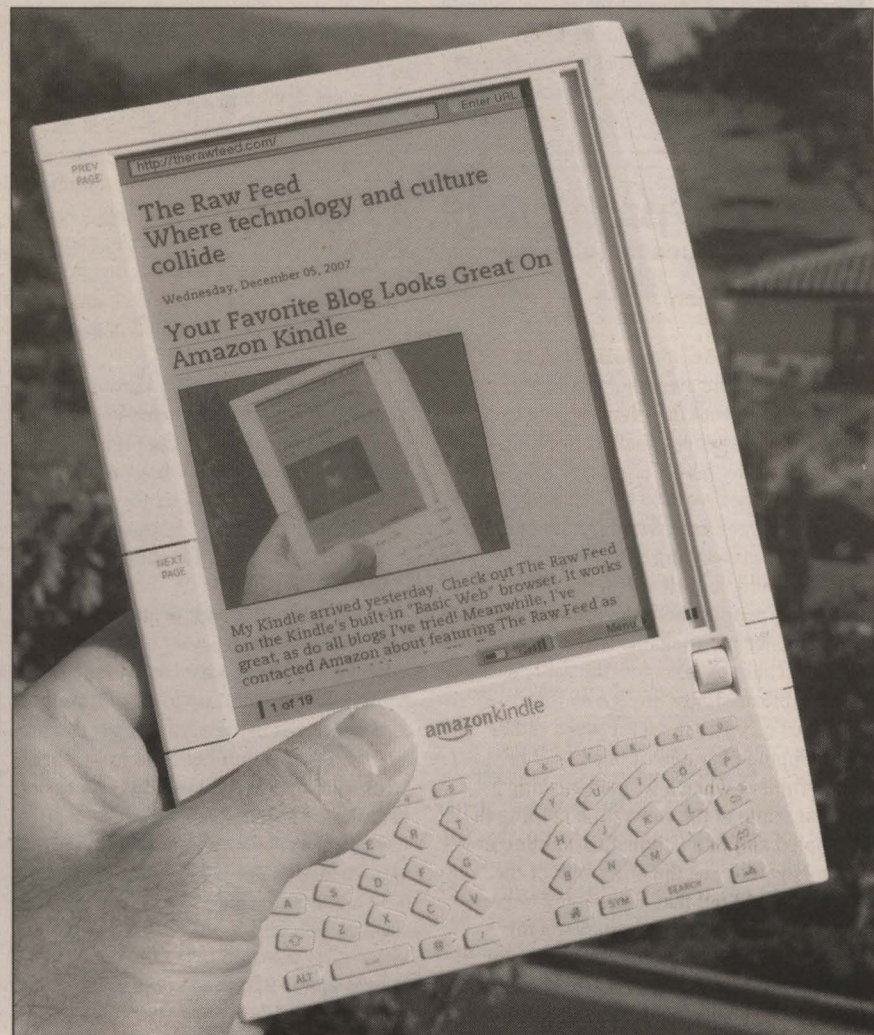
of books, you only need one. Educational textbooks can be distributed at a lower cost than print versions, resulting in a financial benefit for students. Note taking, passage highlighting and a built in dictionary make great study features.

While electronic books do not consume paper or ink in their production, they are constructed of resources that can be environmentally hazardous and non-biodegradable. They also require energy to charge. Whether or not electronic books have an environmental advantage will have to be left for further extensive study. Environmental issues aside, electronic books seem to have some advantages in an academic context.

Although I have never used an electronic book, I imagine they lack tangibility. There is something to be said for being able to flip through the pages of a book and truly get a feel for it. There is also something about relaxing with a good "traditional" book or walking through the rows upon rows of books at the library. It is in these tangible aspects, offered by the traditional book, that I feel the electronic book may fall short.

Perhaps, one day there will be an incorporation of the electronic book in academia. However, I don't foresee a total replacement anytime soon. So, until e-books are college issue, save money and the environment and buy used books by taking advantage of the campus bookstore buy back period, December 14–18 this semester.

Fuming? Nodding? Tell us what you think; contact opinions@theotherpress.ca with your opinions about this or any other article



STUDENTS & MONEY

Car maintenance

By Trevor Doré

Many students who attend Douglas College live far enough away from campus that taking public transit just simply isn't practical. The time that it would take to arrive by bus or by SkyTrain in some cases is double the time it takes to drive.

For some students, the decision to drive rather than take transit is a matter of comfort and convenience. The ability to get up and go whenever accompanied by the luxury of single occupancy is simply priceless. For others, it comes down to a simple cost-benefit analysis. Is the extra time spent taking transit really worth the potential savings?

A vehicle can provide efficient comfortable transportation provided it is maintained properly. The following are some tips on how to keep your vehicle ready and reliable:

- **Fluids:** the number one most important thing is fluid maintenance—fluids are the lifeblood of all automobiles.
 - **Engine Oil:** maintaining a proper engine oil level will significantly increase the lifespan of your vehicle and is easy to check when filling up with gas. Changing your engine oil and filter every 5000 kilometres will make the engine bulletproof and increase the resale value of your vehicle. Many places offer oil change services that are quick and cheap. If you do nothing else—do this!

- **Coolant:** somewhat like our bodies, vehicles run best when they are hydrated. Not enough coolant can cause your engine to overheat in the summer and run cold during the winter. If you have an aluminum engine make sure to use aluminum compatible anti-freeze (it will say so on the bottle). If you're thinking water will do the trick, think again. While it is okay as a temporary fix in the summer, if you forget to change it in the winter you could be left with a cracked engine block, which works great as a boat anchor.

- **Others:** brake fluid, clutch fluid and transmission fluid are all very important. It is important to ensure that they are always at the proper level and changed at proper intervals. Windshield washer fluid, while it is not necessary for the proper function of the vehicle, it is necessary for the safe operation—make sure it is topped up, especially during the winter months.

- **Body:** a well-maintained auto body can enhance aesthetics as well as performance. Keeping your vehicle cleaning will prevent corrosion. This is especially important in the winter months when corrosive salts and sands are spread on the roads. These corrosive materials will eat away



at the paint and expose the bare metal, eventually resulting in rust. Rust is automotive cancer—once it starts to spread it's hard to stop and can have devastating results. Wax is a great way to protect and maintain that new car finish. A clean vehicle is also a more aerodynamic, fuel-efficient vehicle.

- **Tires:** tires are constantly in contact with the pavement, which causes constant wear. Maintaining proper tire pressure will help reduce this wear, prolong the life of your treads and increase fuel efficiency. Tire gauges are cheap and easy to use. If you notice that they are a little low, be sure to top them up the next time you are a gas station.

These are just the basics and most of this information and more can be found in your owner's manual. If you are having any difficulties with the maintenance or are not comfortable doing it on your own, take your vehicle to the local garage where the friendly mechanics—who have all of the tools—will gladly give you a hand.

Remember, repairs may seem like a burden but if left unchecked, they could lead to the demise of your entire vehicle; that \$200 bill you were once looking at has all of a sudden become a \$2000 bill.

Every time you do something or have something done to your vehicle, make note of it. When it comes time to sell your vehicle, you will be able to show that all of the regular maintenance has been done—a surefire selling feature.

Growing problem of jaywalking needs to be addressed

We've been successful in discouraging drunk drivers; why not jaywalkers?

By Siavash Emamzadeh

When it comes to the number of public awareness campaigns, jaywalking often takes a back seat to other offences such as drinking and driving. While there's nothing wrong with that, there does seem to be a shortage of frequent, large-scale warnings about the dangers of jaywalking.

It would be well worth the effort to remind people about the immediate consequences of illegally crossing the street because as it stands, the act is easily observable at almost any given time.

Just recently in fact, I saw a rather eye-popping example of this brand of unlawfulness when a woman pushing a stroller while at the same time holding the crumpled end of a Chihuahua-guiding dog leash began to eye the other side of the street. I could tell that she wanted to cross the two adjacent lanes, hop over a thin concrete median and cross two more lanes to get to the opposite sidewalk. Fortunately, she somehow managed to complete this

task despite having to hastily make her way across while keeping an eye on her stroller and trailing dog.

Although I can't identify with this woman, I do have a sense of what must be going on in the mind of jaywalkers. They must be thinking, "Time is money." Why

"It's hard to expect that warnings alone can prevent people from unlawfully crossing the street. After all, jaywalking is like the criminal equivalent of an epidemic. It's a behaviour carried out by a lot of people that puts their lives at risk."

take the time to go as far as the pedestrian crosswalk when I can just cross the street now?

Ironically, their motto is inconsistent with what they do. Jaywalkers risk being seriously injured or killed on a regular basis, so any remaining time or money is always at stake.

Furthermore, it's hard to expect that warnings alone can prevent people from unlawfully crossing the street. After all, jaywalking is like the criminal equivalent of an epidemic. It's a behaviour carried out by

a lot of people that puts their lives at risk.

But it would be reasonable to expect instances of jaywalking to trim down over time. One way to do this is to mimic some of the campaigns aimed at curbing drinking and driving. In particular, staging a mock accident of a jaywalker-automobile

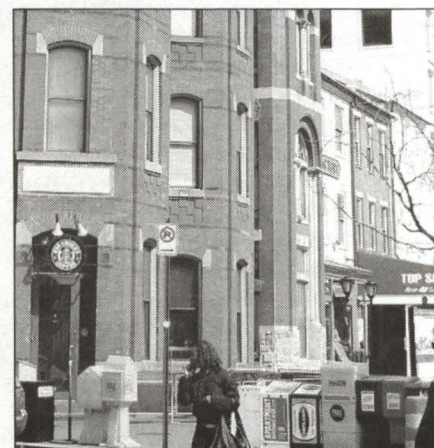
encounter may prove to be very effective in getting the message across.

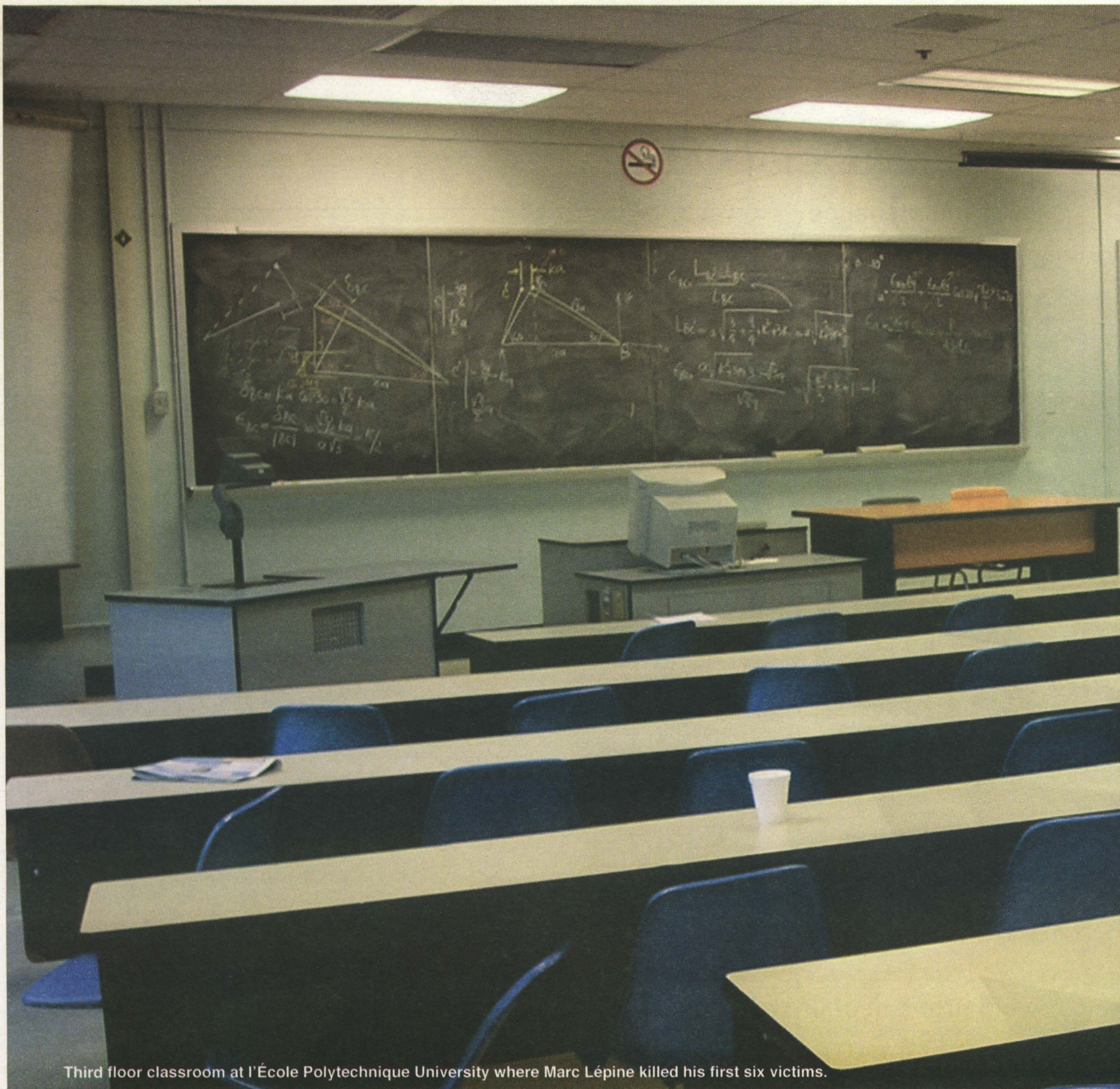
As a matter of fact, I'm reminded of a police incident that I once witnessed. I vividly remember the image of a person's body lying on the ground in the midst of police cars and caution tape.

Now, even though people know that mock accidents are not real, the recreations can be terrifyingly realistic—it's not uncommon for the portrayals to be gory. Viewing them can trigger strong emotions and lead to a prolonged memory

of the scene. It's definitely enough to make people think twice about crossing the street anywhere else than a designated crosswalk.

Certainly, people will be less inclined to jaywalk if they are regularly reminded of and really understand the severity of its dangers. After all, when it comes to the issue of car-pedestrian incidents, it's a two-way street: drivers should avoid alcohol and pedestrians should avoid jaywalking.





Third floor classroom at l'École Polytechnique University where Marc Lépine killed his first six victims.

By Tanya Colledge

This year marks the 20th anniversary of what has come to be known as the Montreal Massacre—the horrific day where 14 women at l'École Polytechnique University were killed when a gunman opened fire and targeted specifically the female students. This year, to honour and remember the women who lost their lives that sombre day, New Westminster MLA Dawn Black will join Douglas College, the Battered Women's Centre and the Douglas Student Union for a vigil at the New Westminster campus.

On December 6, 1989, the penultimate day before the beginning of winter holidays, a troubled 25-year-old man by the name of Marc Lépine entered Montreal's School of Engineering (l'École Polytechnique) just after five o'clock, concealing a loaded semi-automatic rifle. Lépine had sought to become a student at the university, but had

not been accepted—a decision he blamed on policies promoted by feminists and their sympathizers—and decided that dozens of women at the school would have to pay the ultimate price for "ruining his life."

After roaming the halls and firing shots at anyone who got in his way, Lépine made his way to Room 303, a classroom filled with 10 women, 48 men and a male professor. Separating the men from the women, Lépine ordered the men out of the classroom at gunpoint shouting, "I want the women. I hate feminists!" He then lined the remaining female students up against the wall and began shooting. Six women died; four were injured, but survived.

Lépine then left the classroom and proceeded to the school's cafeteria, killing three more students. Firing shots at students diving out of the way of his mad rampage, Lépine made his way back up to the third floor where he entered a classroom filled with students delivering their end-of-

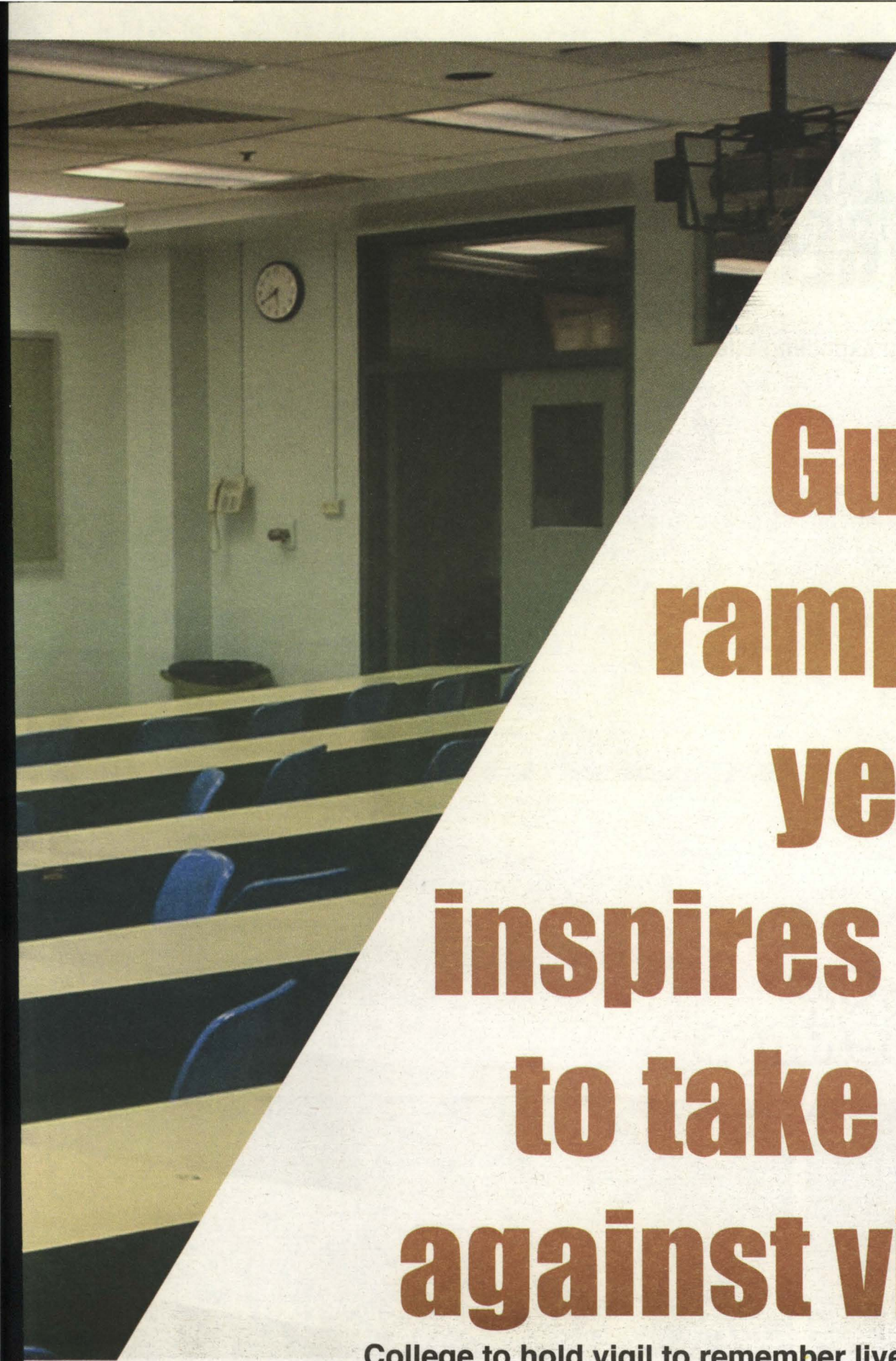
semester oral presentations. Unaware of what had been unfolding throughout the rest of the school, the students ran for cover, but the gunman continued to shoot at women behind their desks, killing four more. It was there in Room 311, approximately 20 minutes after storming into the building, that Lépine took his own life—leaving a suicide note offering an insight into his virulent mindset that fuelled his rage.

The wake of the murders gathered not only all of Quebec, but the entire country and many others around the world in mourning. People of all genders, generations and ethnicities congregated to pay their respects to the many lives lost and to stand-up for the feminism that their attacker was so against.

There was no doubt that horror witnessed on December 6 had been an unprecedented act in Canada's history and for years, the Montreal Massacre has been analyzed and discussed—many wondering

if it was an isolated act or a symbol of male violence against women. Since that fateful day in 1989, December 6 has been named the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and is commemorated across the country to raise awareness. The anniversary marks a time to remember not only the lives lost in Montreal 20 years ago, but also the lives lost every year due to violence against women.

Those murdered in this act of "gendercide" have become symbols of the injustice against women. The tragedy has also spurred many movements and studies in attempt to better understand and protect women from such severe acts of violence. The hatred and utter wrath Lépine brought through the doors of the university that evening has been scrutinized—often used as an example in case studies to try understand this sort of animalistic behaviour. Studies have revealed that Lépine's act of violence



Gunman's rampage 20 years ago inspires women to take a stand against violence

College to hold vigil to remember lives lost in Montreal Massacre

as strong parallels with numerous acts of domestic murder and abuse committed by men fearful that "their" women will assert a greater sense of independence and move beyond their traditional female roles.

The event also has also been a major catalyst in the Canadian gun control movement. Parents of the victims, survivors and other supporters were greatly involved in passing of the Firearms Act in 1995 that imposed stricter gun regulations for all firearms. In 1998, Ottawa banned all semi-automatic, military assault weapons and short-barreled handguns and required the registration of all firearms and strict licensing for all firearm owners in 2003.

And if Lépine's goal was to suppress feminism and its supporters from becoming a largely accepted group in today's society, he with the power to communicate their messages and idealisms, he certainly did not succeed. In fact, the "madman's" rampage

"If Lépine's goal was to suppress feminism and its supporters from becoming a largely accepted group in today's society, one with the power to communicate their messages and idealisms, he certainly did not succeed. In fact, the "madman's" rampage had the complete opposite effect. In the year following the tragedy, the number of female enrolments in Canadian engineering institutions such as l'École Polytechnique almost doubled—seeing a rise from 13 to 19 per cent in the proportion of female to male students."

had the complete opposite effect. In the year following the tragedy, the number of female enrolments in Canadian engineering institutions such as l'École Polytechnique almost doubled—seeing a rise from 13 to 19 per cent in the proportion of female to male students. The popularity in the feminist way of thinking, one where women stepped

outside of their traditional roles, was taking flight and would inspire generations to come to rise to their fullest potential.

Finally, as vigils and discussions on the topic are being held across the country this week to raise awareness about the issue, it also gives the opportunity for organizations such as the Battered Women's Centre of

Vancouver and Douglas College's Student Union to inform women about such acts of violence, how they can protect themselves and be empowered because of it.

A series of events will take place this week at both Douglas College campuses to commemorate the event including a free women's self defense class on December 1, and a banner signing in the concourse at the New Westminster campus until December 3. Vigils will be held at both campuses: on December 3 at 10:30 in RM 2201 in New Westminster following a remembrance video, and on December 7 in Coquitlam in the Atrium. The vigil at the New Westminster campus will also feature a guest speaker from the Battered Women's Centre of Vancouver from 1–3 p.m. in room 2804 to answer questions and shed some light on what is being done to inform the public about the issue.

WORD ON THE STREET

What kind of Christmas presents are you expecting this year?

By Rosa Hong, Photographer



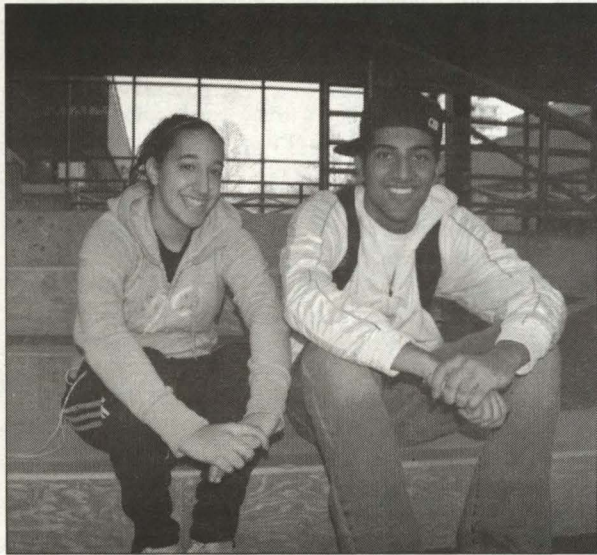
Vanessa Leuszler, Lisa Rempel
Sports Science

"New phone and snowboard equipment."



Jenn Bodnar
Science

"Clothes, snowboard."



Amanda Dodds, Rajan Bans
Sports Science, Business Management

"A new friend!"
"A new colouring book!"

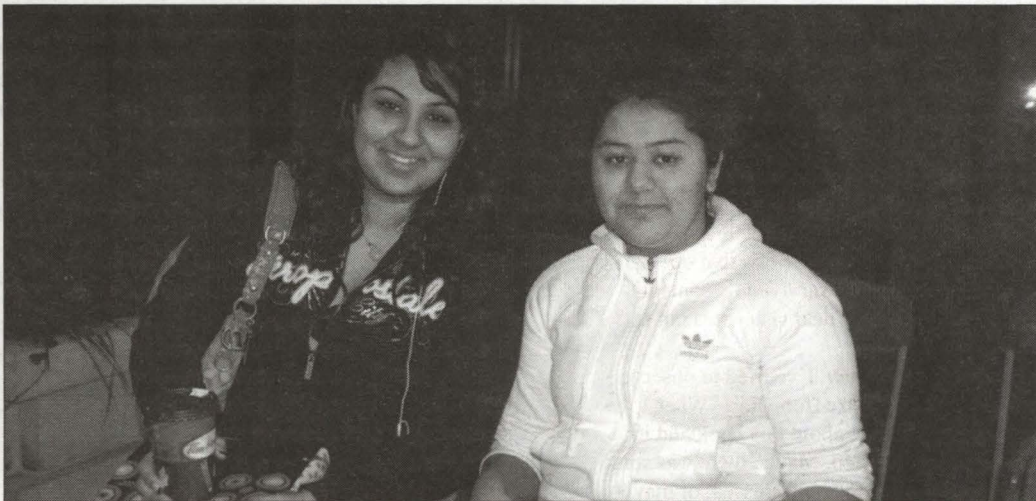
Campus Happenings



Advisor Shahnas Darayan at the Academic Advising table.



Timothy Kituri, Royal Roads University representative, promoting his school to Douglas students.



Arts students Chandni Rakkw and Jessica Patla waiting to ask some questions regarding registration.

Tongue licks up the stage one last time at Pub 340

Featured artist Mick Believe struts his stuff like it ain't nobody's bid'ness

By Jay Schreiber, Arts Editor

So long as there are youth in our society, rock 'n' roll will never die. The young know how to party hard and the music that sparks it all is still being heard loud and clear amongst the late night hangouts of downtown Vancouver.

Local Rolling Stones tribute band Tongue had one last taste of Pub 340, the rock joint on the corner of Cambie and Hastings, before the beloved bar undergoes major renovations. As I've mentioned numerous times before, many of downtown Vancouver's live venues are undergoing transformations and 340 is simply the most recent to fall into that category.

After the complete extermination of Richards on Richards and The Cobalt, bars such as The Met, Malones

and The Plaza club changed style to better suit a more popular audience.

The Cobalt is expected to be re-opened with a *boom tisk boom tisk* crowd in mind and hopefully that's not on the menu for Pub 340, who's clientele have been quite the opposite.

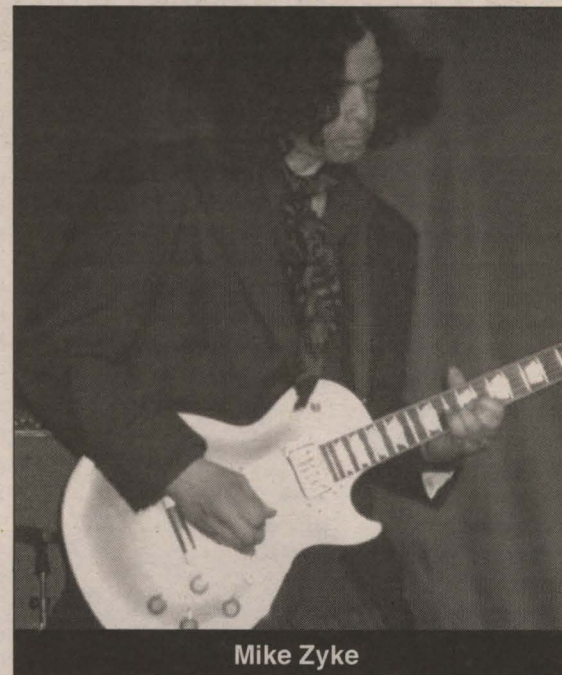
With no live music scheduled during the month long renovations, and time being spent to settle issues between quarrelling owners, fans can only hope that 2010 doesn't change the pub too much. Never the less, on November 28 the last night of live music, the classic rock came out to a crowd of all ages.

Jimi Hendrix enthusiast Mike Zyke used his six strings and became the influential guitar god with his amazing renditions of the greatest solos ever to be amplified. The jam was tight, and the covers would make

any '60s love child sing along.

Tongue took to the stage and rocked an amazing set with feature act Mick Believe (a.k.a. Steve Stone) commanding the crowd and mastering the microphone. Hits like "Under my Thumb" and "Miss You" got the crowd dancing, and feeling the vibe. Mick from every era was shown through costume changes and along with the help from some auxiliary percussionists, the backup band was as tight as ever.

In the end, it's not the absence of the venue that kills the spirit of rock, its forgetting your youth that extinguishes that flame. Tongue's set rekindled the energy of the Rolling Stones and proved once and for all that you're only as old as you feel; rock and roll will always find a home.



Mike Zyke

A New Moon rises

Batshit crazy fans take their obsessions too far

By Angela Espinoza

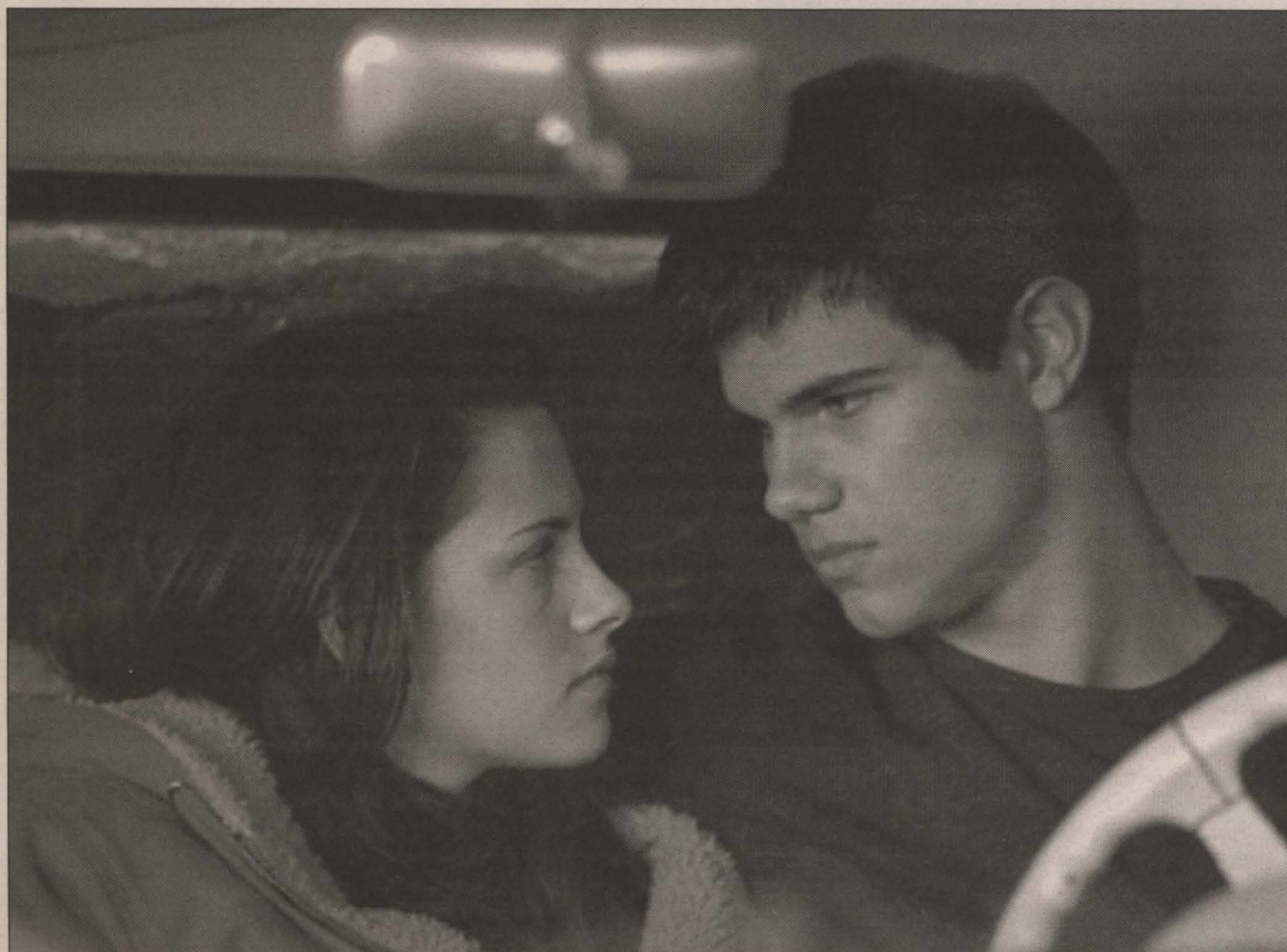
As many of you may know, a tragedy has recently fallen upon us. Devastating nations far and wide, this deadly disease has taken the lives of millions. Cures have been concocted time and again, but all have been far too experimental—and have failed. I am, of course, talking about the disease that is *Twilight*.

I assume we all know what *Twilight* is by now—the modern day, cry-baby version of Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, minus the religious overtones and tragedy, which has been replaced with Native American "werewolves" and jailbait as far as the eye can see.

New Moon, the sequel to 2008's *Twilight*, was released into theatres just two weeks ago. Through some treacherous witchcraft, *New Moon's* opening day sales beat out *The Dark Knight*—once again, you *Twilight* fanatics have made me sick. How can a book-and-film series with such a mediocre fan-base contribute all that money? Are there really that many youths obsessed with this insult to the arts? My guess is many of them bought several tickets—that's the only way I can comprehend it.

Several years ago, when the first *Twilight* book was released, I thought to give it a shot. Originally, I was embarrassed that I found nothing interesting about the book, while all my peers were obsessed with it. Eventually, peer pressure wore off, and after gaining some common sense, I realized how poorly this book was written. I was one of the few that opened Pandora's Box and survived its contents. Unfortunately, my dear sister was not so lucky.

As a bystander, I've tried to observe this obsessive craze from afar. "What was so intriguing about this book and its films?" I wondered. Maybe there was some character development I missed, or maybe the sequel books were even better than the



first. Maybe it was all part of some joke I didn't fully understand. Having seen bits and pieces of the first film, trailers of the second, and my sister explain to me in full detail

the contents of each book—I've come to

the conclusion that these people are just... well, those words are not fit for publication. It's a lousy book series, and the films are terrible. These people have no concept of

what makes a good book or film. Or maybe they do, and they don't realize that some things *need* to be kept as guilty pleasures.

That said, I think you all get my point. I do feel some remorse, as those close to me have bitten into the *Twilight* apple and fallen under the spell; however, the phrase "no mercy" is just too perfect for my hatred towards the franchise. I can't tell you how much I grinned the day a friend

told me *New Moon* has only received 28 per cent (now 30) on Rotten Tomatoes. For those that don't know, Rotten Tomatoes is a website that calculates reviews based on professional and movie-goer critical analysis—any movie under 60 per cent is considered terrible.

So, with hope that one day, this franchise will disappear off the face of the earth, I hope I've given some of you food for thought. For *Twilight* fans I may have offended, to you I say, take your *True Blood* and your *Vampire Diaries*, and enjoy your one-way trip to Volterra, Italy.

Looks that kill: a fashion-forward look at 2010 winter trends

By Stephanie Trembath

Slushy rain, muddy streets, dreary grey skies; just because this season looks boring doesn't mean you have to!

As fall comes to an end and winter emerges with bare branched trees and the promise of snow, so does this season's fashion trends for 2010. Throw out your rubber boots and blazers, because this winter classic black is back and it doesn't include anything that isn't sleek, sexy, or fitted. With the Olympics right around the corner and the gradual end of the economic recession, 2010 brings a whole new line of fashionable pieces, ideas, and creations that are sure to impress at any Christmas parties or New Year's celebrations.

Forget finding the perfect LBD—"little black dress"—this year finding a signature little black jacket will complete your look and add flair to your winter wardrobe. Combined with the LBD and ankle boots, or leggings and a chunky necklace, the leather jacket is this season's staple piece as it can pull off any look. Glamorous, polished, or grunge, no matter what your personal style may be the LBJ is versatile enough to go with any outfit. In 2010 the look of leather will be taken to the next level; in Paris leather pants, skirts, and dresses

are all being worn on the catwalk in a variety of subdued colours.

Along with the LBJ this season the thigh high heel is taking a step in a completely new direction to complete a look that screams sex appeal and confidence. The thigh-high boot that is making its appearance this fall is the hottest shoe trend this season but should be worn with caution. Do not wear the

"The thigh-high boot that is making its appearance this fall is the hottest shoe trend this season but should be worn with caution. Do not wear the thigh-high boot with a leather dress unless you want to be paid after your date."

thigh-high boot with a leather dress unless you want to be paid after your date. Do not wear these boots if you intend on getting anywhere quickly; they are hazardous to run in. And do not wear this boot if you have short legs; your entire lower body will be consumed by your shoes. Otherwise, thigh high heels are extremely stylish this season and are a piece that can add flair to almost any outfit. They are, however, an investment piece as they are extremely expensive.

In following the retro trend of torn jeans, laddered stockings and ripped tights are very trendy this winter despite the drop in temperature and snow. Baring bits of skin and glimpses of leg is *tres chic* when paired with the right outfit. To look neo-grunge or rocker

chic, pair your shredded tights with a pair of boots and mini skirt, and top it off with a cute winter beanie. Avoid wearing bright colors and too much jewellery or you'll wind up looking like one of the Olson Twins; stick to softer tones in greys and blacks and pale creams.

To complete the look for this season the style mantra seems to be following the *Twilight* phenomenon. Black nail polish, deep red lips, and rich dark hair is the trendsetting appearance chosen for this winter, and mirrored by Stephanie Meyer. It's the look of the vampire.

Okay, so fangs and red eyes are not the latest style secrets but with all the latest media hype surrounding *Twilight*, *Vampire Diaries* and *True Blood*, a look of mystery and seduction is definitely "in". Smokey eye makeup, blood red lipstick, and a style that encompasses that rough "bad boy" edge in leather, torn tights, and thigh high's is definitely reminiscent of *Twilight* and sets a tone for a more powerful and provocative style.

Finding a perfectly fitted LBJ or a matte black nail polish to add the final touches to your outfit will define your signature look whether you go perfectly poised, or neo-grunge your quest to impress this season; just stick to the basics and have fun playing with the latest fashion pieces.



Amanda Trembath sporting an LBJ

Moulin Rouge ballet keeps it classy with a sassy twist

Royal Winnipeg Ballet's production dazzles

By Stephanie Trembath

Slightly altered from Baz Luhrmann's melodramatic love triangle, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's production of *Moulin Rouge* was definitely a "spectacular spectacular" as one of the Diamond Dogs might say.

Held at the Vancouver Center for Performing Arts from November 19-22, the Royal Ballet's performance of *Moulin Rouge* embraced the bawdy promiscuity of the cabaret while maintaining the elegant poise of classic ballet.

Complete with rainbow and ruffled corseted outfits that were worn to the saucy cancan, the dancers maintained their grace in their depiction of the Moulin Rouge Diamond Dogs; the girls, who did the splits in the air and flips off of male dancer's shoulders, captured the razzle-dazzle and sassy attitude of the vampy Moulin Rouge Dancers despite their point shoes and tights.

In the opening scene Nathalie, who is a poor maid, is discovered dancing in the streets by Zidler, the wealthy owner of the Moulin Rouge. The costumes and setting of the Paris streets are quite bland and boring, which helps in the dramatic contrast of the vibrant light and color that explodes off the stage in the next scene inside the cabaret. Before Natalie leaves her home in Paris, she gives her red scarf to her love, the struggling artist Matthew, who is



best friends with Toulouse. Toulouse and Matthew play the poor painters in the play, which is tastefully shown and allows a bit of comic relief between scenes when the two compete to see who is a better painter. Amid pirouettes and long-legged leaps, the two men wave their paintbrushes and play tug-of-war with the female model who is posing for them.

After the painters had finished, the curtain opened to inside the cabaret where Natalie, who once wore a long brown dress, is now in a shiny white ruffled gown and decorated in diamonds from head to toe. With dozens of colourful dancers in jewels and feathers, and an illuminated background of blazing orange and fiery red, the stage

was now brilliantly lit up with sound and color. Even the characteristic windmill that symbolizes the Moulin Rouge fills up the stage as the female dancer's chasséd and stomped and can-canned across the stage. Unlike the Diamond Dogs, these prima ballerinas do the can-can on point—and high kick up to the heavens. Natalie highlighted the sultry dance of the cabaret when she pirouetted multiple times center stage, her arms and feet held with certainty; she whipped her dress up and ended with an elegant jeté into Zidler's arms.

Following the story, a heartbroken Matthew shows up at the Moulin Rouge and tries to whisk Natalie away. A most romantic scene, reminiscent of *Romeo and*

Juliet, showcased the two lovers standing on a white-lit bridge with the Eiffel Tower sparkling in the background. In traditional white ballet formal wear, the tiny sparkling lights and two dancers shone against a deep blue background in an elegant duet portraying their love for each other.

A favorite scene of mine was of Toulouse and Matthew; after Zidler threatens to kill Matthew if he does not leave, the two get wickedly drunk on absinthe and hallucinate as they paint. With creeping shadows and curling smoke decorating the stage, three of the green fairies appear in chiffon and lace and tiny green sparkly wings. They begin a playful dance as they tease and provoke the painters while they chug down more absinthe and wobble confusedly against their portraits.

Still skilfully done, the ending didn't quite capture the tragic death of the cabaret star by consumption; rather, a loud shotgun misaimed by the jealous Zidler caused the death of Natalie in the ballet's rendition. Having seen the movie and numerous ballets done by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, I must say that their take on the melodramatic love story in Paris was performed quite well. The contrast in costumes, the dramatic change in scenery, and the practiced movements of the burlesque dancers was everything the Moulin Rouge promises. It's a shame most cabaret dancers can't get their can-cans going that high—or fast.



Tuesday, December 1

In case you missed their rockin' show at 340 on Saturday, catch Rolling Stones tribute band **Mick Believe featuring Tongue** at Fairview Pub tonight. Show up strutting like you mean it 'cause this show is going to be a rockin' groovy time, man

Wednesday, December 2

Put on your camo pants and find the dirtiest metal t-shirt you own, **Cannibal Corpse** are coming back to Vancouver. Sharing a bill with **Hatebreed** and **Unearth**, the Commodore Ballroom is the place to be to bang our head and growl in tune. I'd leave after Corpse if I were you, there ain't much else to see after they destroy the stage. Not into metal? How about **Douglas College's concert band and small ensemble** concert at the Muir Theatre at the New West campus? You're at school late and there's a free show with an open bar, might as well check it out.

Thursday, December 3

If you're in to experimental psy-punk along the lines of Nine Inch Nails, then head to Honey Lounge at the Lotus Hotel for an evening with **Twin Crystals**. If you're not up for that, then head over to the Queen Elizabeth Theatre to see the Vancouver Opera perform *Norma*.

Friday, December 4

If you're in the mood for a maximum heavy metal party, then go to the Eldorado on Kingsway to check out **Skylar** and **Black Wizzard**. If want something a little bit lighter, go to Malone's for **Burn Hollywood Burn** and **Freedom Ride**. Something lighter still? The Vancouver Symphony is performing a Baroque Christmas featuring selections from **Bach** and **Vivaldi**.

Saturday, December 5

Come out and witness the disturbingly dark, the curiously crazed, the bafflingly beautiful and seductively spicy sonic sensations from **composition students at Douglas College**. The composition concert happens at 7:30 in the Muir, and it's guaranteed to be an outrageous night of creations from right within the halls of Douglas College.



Twin Crystals

Putting your faith in music could work wonders for you

How to audibly beat the end of semester exams



Jay Schreiber
arts editor

Exams, bleh! The only common denominator that determines your end of semester grade. Nobody likes them, yet we all sit at their mercy and write like our futures depend on it.

Of course it's not fair to expect someone to regurgitate three months worth of learning within a single three-hour sitting, but your best option is to just prepare. Typical preparation usually consists of hours at the library reviewing hundreds of pages of information and what-not, but did it ever occur to try an audible approach?

Believe it or not, the music you listen to is linked to the kind person you are, and what you put into your ears will have

focus in that environment. The researchers concluded that pop music has quick catchy melodies and lyrics that are easily memorized, causing easy distractions to members of the ADD generation.

Listening to musical genres such as classical or jazz as light background music can help a person focus better in study situations. I mean, sure listening to gangsta rap will get you pumped for a work out at the gym, but when you're trying to pay attention to your poli-sci exam, you may want to turn the G-thugs off.

Indie music, in all its damnation, is perhaps the worst thing to listen to. With ever-so-poppy riffs and abstract vocals, you might just want to listen to it on your commute in, but cut it when studying for your bio final.

Listening to alt rock or pop music is a curse within itself, mainly because of the subject matter. Lyrics and melodies get stuck in your head so easily that it's impossible to soak up any redeemable

"Listening to musical genres such as classical or jazz as light background music can help a person focus better in study situations. I mean, sure listening to gangsta rap will get you pumped for a work out at the gym, but when you're trying to pay attention to your poli-sci exam, you may want to turn the G-thugs off."

an effect on your daily life. Many people sitting in the college library will have their iWhatever plugged in and can be seen grooving along while reviewing notes. I have to wonder what comes out of the ear buds sometimes, and whether or not it's helpful.

In a study done a few years ago, three identical test situations were created to see what type of music works best for getting the creative juices flowing amongst students taking exams. The first situation had students writing an exam with no music in the background, the second group listening to instrumental music, and the third heat wrote the exam with popular music. The study concluded that the group that listened to instrumental music scored highest, followed by the students with no music.

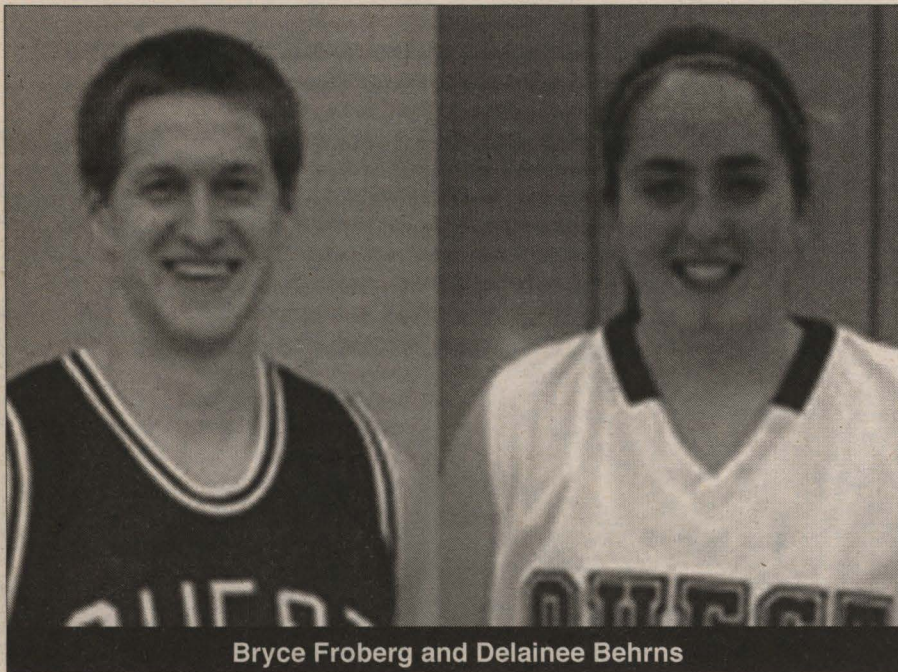
The group that listened to pop music had the lowest scores; with many of the participants saying that it was hard to

information for your English paper. Not to mention most radio hits deal with heartbreak, being in a rock band, or "fighting the man," the obvious reason why you're in college.

Punk rock and heavy metal are both automatically disqualified due to technicality. It's impossible to study when everyone is yelling, the drums are pounding and the guitars are squealing. Not to mention all that counter-productive anarchy...

I'm not discrediting any of the previous genres, in fact, I myself am a fan of each of them in one way or another, but when it comes to exam time, even I pick and choose. Listening to nothing at all while trying to learn seems to work for most people, but if you can't stomach it, I've heard that Bach's *Mass in B-Minor* can really get the brain cells cooking.

Quest athletes take home BCCAA Athlete of the Week awards



Bryce Froberg and Delainee Behrns

By Garth McLennan, Sports Editor

It was a good week for Quest University's basketball program as Bryce Froberg and Delainee Behrns brought BCCAA athlete of the week honours to Quest for both men's and women's basketball.

Froberg was essential to the Kermodes weekend sweep of Langara College, and it marked a first for the expansion Quest team as their first complete weekend sweep in team history. He posted back to back 18 point outings to lead Quest to victory, and in the first game scored the game winning basket, which was among the nine points he had in the fourth quarter. Quest took the game 58-57 in thrilling fashion.

The Bellingham native and third-year Quest student was just as good in the second game on Saturday, once again nailing the winning basket, this time on a great jump shot with just under three

seconds remaining on the clock in the fourth quarter. He also rebounded well in both games, picking up five on Friday and nine on Saturday.

On the women's side, Behrns, in just her first year with the team, was equally valuable in her team's success, Kermodes also recorded a pair of victories against Langara. Behrns, who stands just 5 foot 4, was dominant from just about everywhere over the weekend. During the first game she was perfect on free throws, going a stellar nine for nine while putting up 18 points over the course of the game.

Her second effort during the second game on Saturday wasn't as impressive offensively, but she displayed a well rounded game nonetheless, scoring six points while picking up eight rebounds and four assists. Much like Froberg, she was clutch when it counted, scoring a massive basket to give Quest just a single point lead towards the end of the game.

NHL players didn't "jump the queue"



By Garth McLennan, Sports Editor

Amidst all of the panic surrounding the H1N1 scare has been a fury towards several NHL teams for supposedly "jumping the queue," or budging in line in order to get the vaccine.

At first glance, it does appear to be a cowardly and reprehensible move by the Calgary Flames, Vancouver Canucks and Toronto Maple Leafs. After all, Canadians were bombarded for days with images of pregnant mothers and shivering children waiting in lines around the country for hours on end in order to receive the shot. Contrast that with the typical view of your everyday NHL player—that of a strong 20-something millionaire in the prime of his life and the peak of his health, and it isn't hard to come away with a bitterness or sense of anger towards them all.

However, there are other factors that

need to be considered. What has generally been lost in all of the shouting at the NHL clubs is that NHL players are among the highest of those at risk of spreading the

"It's easy to see this situation as a case of the privileged getting one over on the working class average Joe, but think about it. Think of how many people the regular NHLer interacts with on an everyday basis."

disease should they contract it. Look at how quickly it rifled through the dressing rooms of the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Edmonton Oilers. These are people who work in an environment where they are regularly in extremely close contact with one another, and that isn't to mention a host of other people.

It's easy to see this situation as a case of the privileged getting one over on the working class average Joe, but think about

it. Think of how many people the regular NHLer interacts with on an everyday basis. There's the media, teammates, opposing players, fans in and around the rink, all

of the coaching, training and managerial staff on the team, the travel people they work with to get them around the continent and perhaps most importantly of all, the kids they see and interact with every day. All of this is magnified and intensified for Canadian teams, which all of those that received the vaccine were.

Think about the number of Canucks who visit Canucks Place on a regular basis. All of the children there are dealing with

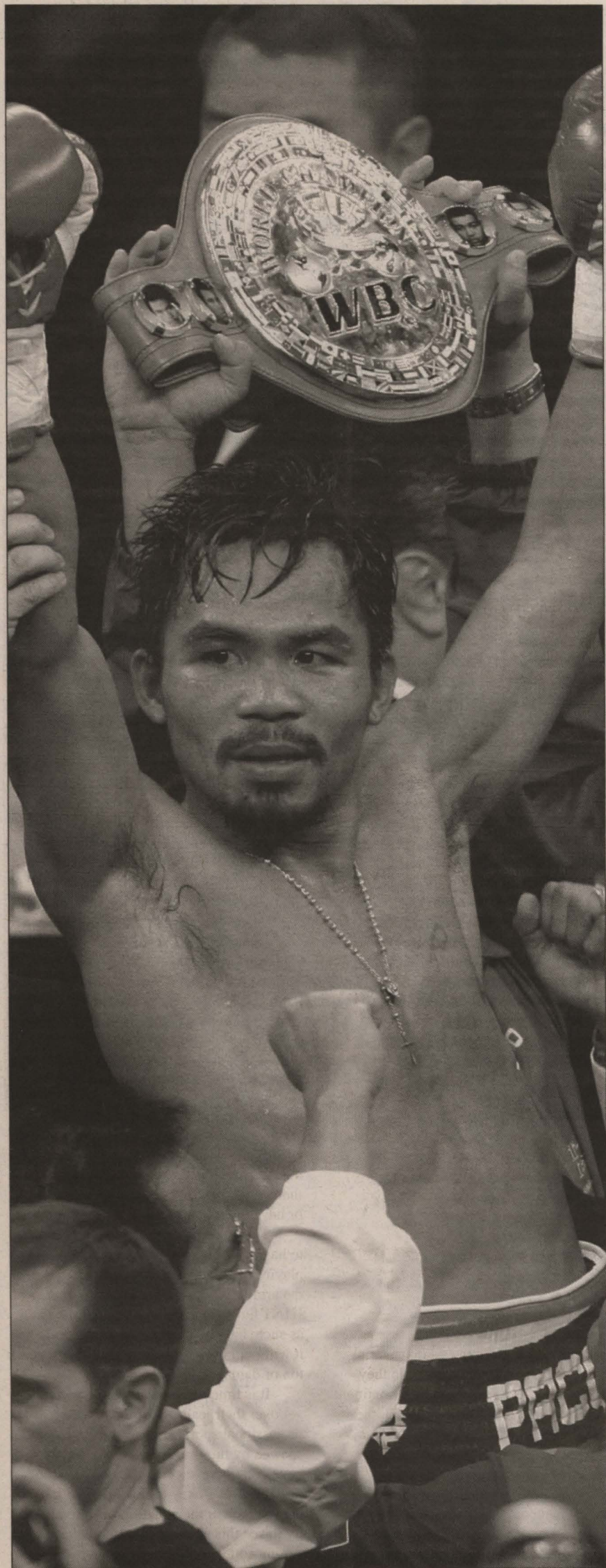
serious illnesses, and getting to meet and spend time with the Canucks has become a huge part of their lives. Would you want that to stop for an indefinite amount of time, or have the players vaccinated?

There aren't many rational negatives to having NHL players, especially those playing in Canadian cities, get the shot in the arm. It is sometimes difficult for the H1N1 flu to be immediately identified and as such, having a player who has contracted it without knowing right away could cause a ton of damage.

It is time for the average person to get over their jealousy of those who play professional sports. The venom I've heard spewed by those incensed that NHLers have gotten the vaccine has bordered on ridiculous. It's okay to not agree with it, but at least look at the situation objectively and try to see this as more than spoiled athletes getting something you want.

Boxing Beat

The welterweights rule—and why it doesn't matter



By Garth McLennan, Sports Editor

Everyone knows that boxing isn't what it used to be. Its popularity has fallen off the map on the mainstream sports market and it has, unfortunately, become more known today for its controversies and tragedies than for the art that it is.

When you look at the state of boxing today though, the question has to be asked, why? Why is boxing in such bad shape publicly? After all, the welterweight division right now is close to the best it's ever been—there is Showtime's wildly entertaining middleweight tournament and people still have a taste for the big fights, as was evidenced by the 1.25 million PPV buys for the recent Manny Pacquiao-Miguel Cotto bout.

While the heavyweight quality could be better, the lighter divisions have been regularly producing some of the best fights seen in years, and there is an incredible list of talent right in the primes of their careers, headed by the two best the two guys who are basically 1 and 1A in terms of the world's best: Pacquiao and the undefeated Floyd Mayweather. After them there is a very strong supporting cast just a cut below in Cotto, Juan Manuel Marquez and the veteran Shane Mosley.

Regardless of what type of boxing you like, right now there is something for everyone in the welterweight division and

European fighters who can barely speak English and who rarely, if ever, fight in Las Vegas, it becomes increasingly difficult to get the average American boxing fan to charge 50 or 60 bucks on his credit card to watch those guys fight.

Plus, the Eastern European fighting style isn't exactly geared towards the action-oriented American sports fan either. There isn't a ton of speed in the heavyweight division anymore and many have labelled boxing as "boring" now with the population of the clutch and grab style.

It's safe to say that the heavyweights of today don't exactly measure up to those of the previous generation, and at the very least there isn't even one transcendent personality that has captured the attention of the mainstream public, in the mould of say, an Ali or a Tyson. Pacquiao has come close, but he isn't a heavyweight, and he isn't American, so he doesn't garner the same type of mainstream fame Stateside that those other names have.

As most are probably already aware, the diminishment of the prestige of the championships has also been a big contributing factor to the decay of boxing. It's been years since we've seen a true, undisputed heavyweight world champion, and the alphabet soup that is the titles today is a major problem.

There was a time when being the world heavyweight champion was widely

"It's safe to say that the heavyweights of today don't exactly measure up to those of the previous generation, and at the very least there isn't even one transcendent personality that has captured the attention of the mainstream public, in the mould of say, an Ali or a Tyson."

those just below it. While Pacquiao-Cotto was 12 rounds of fast and furious action with seemingly unlimited speed and no shortage of power punches, the previous bout between Mayweather and Marquez was just as good, although in a different way. Mayweather showcased why he's the best pound-for-pound fighter on the planet by putting on a clinic defensively and basically avoiding punches at will no matter where he was in the ring.

So, if everything seems to be going swimmingly with the welterweights, then why doesn't boxing enjoy the same popularity and appeal it had in the late '80s and most of the '90s?

The number one reason? The lack of an iconic heavyweight division. Right or wrong, the popularity of boxing, or at least the popularity of boxing in North America, tends to hinge on the heavyweights. When the average guy thinks of boxing, they think of Muhammad Ali, George Foreman, Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield; not many think of guys like Marvin Hagler or Ray Robinson. So what links all of those above names together? They're all easily identifiable, they were all undisputed heavyweight champions at some point in their careers and they are all American.

It may not be politically correct to say so, but most casual sports fans don't care all that much about Vitali and Wladimir Klitschko, no matter how great or how dominant they are. With the heavyweight division primarily controlled by Eastern

considered to be one of the biggest accomplishments in all of sports. Now, I get asked from time to time who the heavyweight champion of the world is and my answer is, "Which one?" There are so many governing bodies, all with their own "world champion" in each weight class that it makes everything so convoluted and confusing that even the most passionate and dedicated of fans have a tough time following what's going on. When you have Fighter A taking on Fighter B for one of Fighter A's three titles but not any of Fighter B's two championships, that's only natural.

That's a big problem that is a long way from being solved. Boxing has reached a state now where the titles aren't even a minor part of the fight anymore. Whenever two of the sport's biggest names clash, it's all about the two of them; whichever championship they're fighting over is barely even mentioned.

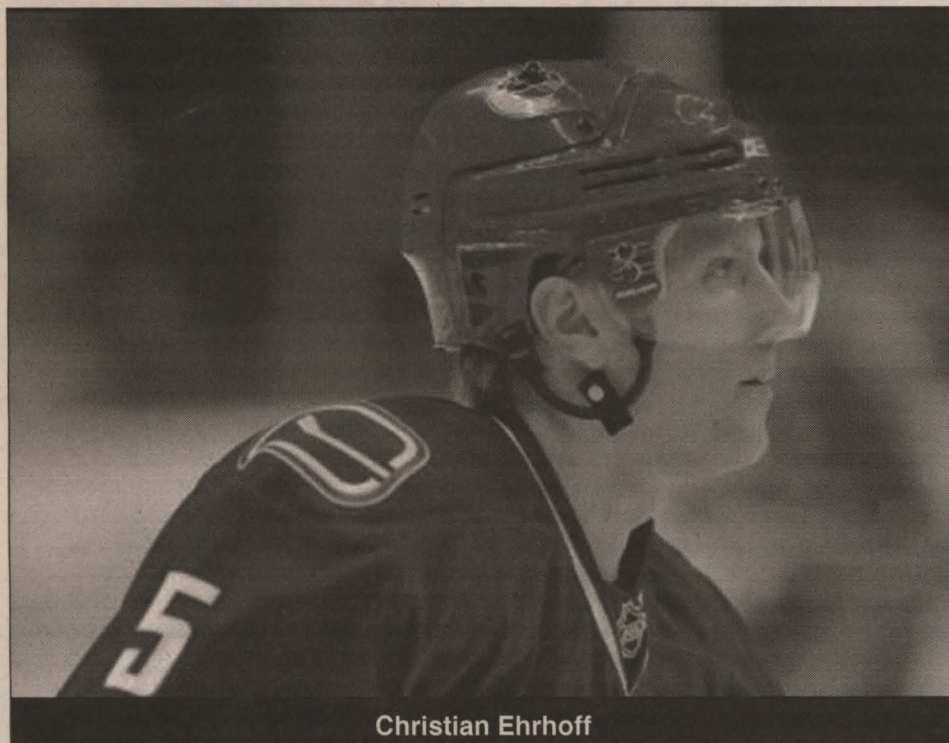
So, as bad as it sounds, until a heavyweight comes along with the brash, self-promoting personality that can make casual sports fans care about him again, and care about the world championships again, boxing will continue to plod along at its current state, and most fans will miss out on classic fights like Pacquiao vs. Cotto.

It's a shame that the public is always focused on the negative sides of boxing, even if boxing largely did the damage to itself. There's so much there to appreciate, but we're a long ways away from a second coming of the glory days.



Canucks Corner

The defence rests



Christian Ehrhoff



Garth McLennan
sports editor

They say that the best defence is a good offense and if that's true, then the Vancouver Canucks have a big problem. With the exception of Christian Ehrhoff, the Canucks' blueline has produced next to nothing in terms of offense so far this year.

The eight defenseman who have played for Vancouver this year have scored a combined total of just 10 goals, and five of those came from Ehrhoff. The next best was 40-year-old Mathieu Schneider, who's only played ten games with limited ice time.

As for the rest of the Canucks blueliners, the lack of pucks put into the net is astonishing, considering how highly touted the group was heading into the year. Willie Mitchell? 23 games, two goals. Kevin Bieksa? 23 games, one goal. Alex Edler, Sami Salo, Shane O'Brien and Aaron Rome? They've combined for zero goals.

For a team with as much money invested in their back end as Vancouver has (the Canucks will pay their defence a total \$21.967 million this year), and five of those eight making in excess of \$3 million, the above numbers are just unacceptable. Plain and simple, the team just isn't getting any sort of value for what they're paying, and in a salary cap world, where every mistake is magnified, that isn't good.

As the Canucks have arrived at the season's quarter pole, the only one providing significant bang for his buck is Ehrhoff, who has easily been the club's top defenseman this year. He came to town this summer with a not-so-sterling reputation as a guy who was loaded with offensive ability but was a liability in his own zone. Not only has he exceeded expectations offensively with 15 points in 23 games, good enough to place him fourth in team scoring overall, but he's also been more than solid defensively with a team-best

+11 rating, which is almost triple the next best mark on the Canucks.

He was at his best against Colorado on November 20,

where he scored twice, added a brilliant assist and dished out a huge hit in a dominant performance where he led Vancouver to a 5-2 victory.

Beyond Ehrhoff though, things get more than a little thin. Bieksa and Edler, who entered the season with a ton of promise and heightened expectations from last year, are particularly disappointing. Granted, Bieksa does have 10 assists for 11 points, and Edler has 11 assists while others like Mitchell aren't normally known for their offensive prowess, but the fact remains that after Ehrhoff, Mike Gillis is paying six defenders \$12.625 million for one goal. Money management becomes an issue even more when you consider that Ehrhoff is Vancouver's fifth-best-paid defenseman.

If you discount Ehrhoff's contributions, Atlanta's 19-year-old Zach Bogosian has more goals than every Canuck defenseman combined. Not good.

"Willie Mitchell? 23 games, two goals. Kevin Bieksa? 23 games, one goal. Alex Edler, Sami Salo, Shane O'Brien and Aaron Rome? They've combined for zero goals."



Darts



By Garth McLennan, Sports Editor

Ah, darts, a favourite of traditional pub dwellers everywhere. It's a game that requires skill (and a certain degree of soberness) to play, but is it a sport?

This is a difficult one to determine, and I suppose the argument comes down to what is more important in darts: athletic ability or accuracy and skill? Now, in many sports, like basketball, both are required in almost equal amounts, but that isn't true for darts.

It's hard to be good at darts. You could be 6 foot 6 and ripped and get destroyed by a pudgy 5-foot-8 wino. While that is a good thing in some ways, it makes it hard to qualify darts as a sport in other respects. After all, how can you call something a sport where there is next to zero athletic talent required?

To be good at darts, you need to have terrific aim and a decent sense of strategy on where to shoot, but I don't know if you can call that an athletic requirement. Now, in darts, the pressure is certainly there. Granted, it isn't the same type of physical pressure as say, football or soccer, but there no doubt that the times when you need to make a crucial shot are pretty cut and dried.

Then there are the more advanced games of darts, which if you get into can get pretty difficult. It can often seem simple, but having

to repeatedly hit doubles, triples and bulls-eyes can be tough. Unlike some other, more easily identifiable sports, there's nowhere to hide in darts. If you make a mistake and miss a shot, your opponent is right there to see it, and has the opportunity to capitalize on it right away.

Much like golf, which we've already classified as a sport a few weeks ago in this space, most regular darts players have a pre-shot routine that they follow to the letter before every throw.


However, it's hard for most people to look at darts as a legitimate sport when take a look at the cast of characters on television playing it professionally. To put it charitably, they don't look like your standard NHL star. Now, that alone shouldn't convince people that darts isn't a sport, because look at bowling, a sport whose best aren't exactly the cream of the athletic crop. However, what I get a kick out of is watching professional darts players regularly drinking in between shots. There aren't many sports where you see that at any level.


THE VERDICT:

Playing darts is fun, it's hard, there are plenty of variations of it, but darts is not a sport.



BCCAA SCOREBOARD

BCCAA				2009 – 2010						
British Columbia Colleges' Athletic Association				Men's Basketball						
W = 2 Points L = 0 Points		GP	W	L	PTS	PF	PA	+/-	Home	Away
1	Vancouver Island University <i>Mariners</i>	7	7	0	14	602	451	+151	3–0	4–0
2	UNBC <i>Timberwolves</i>	7	6	1	12	630	497	+133	2–0	4–1
3	UBC Okanagan <i>Heat</i>	7	6	1	12	574	481	+93	2–1	4–0
4	Capilano University <i>Blues</i>	7	5	2	10	616	561	+55	4–2	1–0
5	Quest University Canada <i>Kermodes</i>	8	3	5	6	539	636	-97	2–3	1–2
6	Kwantlen Polytechnic University <i>Eagles</i>	7	2	5	4	502	516	-3	0–2	2–3
	Langara College <i>Falcons</i>	7	2	5	4	431	496	-76	2–1	0–4
	Camosun College <i>Chargers</i>	7	2	5	4	507	599	-92	1–1	1–4
	Columbia Bible College <i>Bearcats</i>	8	2	6	4	613	726	-113	2–2	0–4
	Douglas College <i>Royals</i>	7	1	6	2	499	550	-51	1–6	0–0
*CBC tiebreaker vs Kwantlen						5513	5513			
BCCAA WEEK 10 (1st Week for Men's Basketball)						BCCAA WEEK 16 (7th Week for Men's Basketball)				
November 6, 2009						January 22, 2010				
	VIU	83	at	52	Quest	CBC	at	VIU		
	Camosun	82	at	87	CBC	Quest	at	Camosun		
	UNBC	72	at	49	Langara	Kwantlen	at	UNBC		
	UBC-O	78	at	72	Kwantlen	Langara	at	UBC-O		
	Capilano	79	at	67	Douglas	Douglas	at	Capilano		
November 7, 2009						January 23, 2010				
	VIU	88	at	75	Quest	CBC	at	VIU		
	Camosun	94	at	85	CBC	Quest	at	Camosun		
	UNBC	69	at	73	Langara	Kwantlen	at	UNBC		
	UBC-O	65	at	63	Kwantlen	Langara	at	UBC-O		
BCCAA WEEK 11 (2nd Week for Men's Basketball)						BCCAA WEEK 17 (8th Week for Men's Basketball)				
November 13, 2009						January 27, 2010 (Wed.)				
	Quest	65	at	82	Douglas	Quest	at	Capilano		
	CBC	66	at	105	Capilano	Capilano	at	Quest		
	Langara	53	at	94	VIU	Douglas	at	CBC		
	Kwantlen	86	at	67	Camosun	VIU	at	Kwantlen		
November 14, 2009						January 31, 2009				
	UNBC	81	at	66	UBC-O	UBC-O	at	UNBC		
	Quest	77	at	72	Douglas	Douglas	at	CBC		
	CBC	67	at	86	Capilano	VIU	at	Kwantlen		
	Langara	67	at	80	VIU					
	Kwantlen	63	at	64	Camosun					
BCCAA WEEK 12 (3rd Week for Men's Basketball)						BCCAA WEEK 18 (9th Week for Men's Basketball)				
November 20, 2009						February 5, 2010				
	Langara	57	at	58	Quest	CBC	at	Langara		
	Kwantlen	71	at	64	CBC	Quest	at	Kwantlen		
	UBC-O	76	at	65	Douglas	Douglas	at	UNBC		
	UNBC	97	at	76	Capilano	VIU	at	Camosun		
November 21, 2009						February 6, 2010				
	Camosun	52	at	90	VIU	CBC	at	Langara		
	Langara	59	at	61	Quest	Quest	at	Kwantlen		
	Kwantlen	85	at	105	CBC	Douglas	at	UNBC		
	UBC-O	86	at	61	Douglas	Capilano	at	UBC-O		
	UNBC	116	at	82	Capilano					
BCCAA WEEK 13 (4th Week for Men's Basketball)						BCCAA WEEK 19 (10th Week for Men's Basketball)				
November 27, 2009						February 12, 2010				
	Quest	87	at	109	UNBC	UNBC	at	CBC		
	CBC	58	at	94	UBC-O	Capilano	at	VIU		
	VIU	75	at	69	Douglas	Douglas	at	Camosun		
	Camosun	78	at	91	Capilano	Langara	at	Kwantlen		
	Kwantlen	62	at	73	Langara					
November 28, 2009						February 13, 2010				
	Quest	64	at	86	UNBC	UBC-O	at	Quest		
	CBC	81	at	109	UBC-O	UNBC	at	CBC		
	VIU	92	at	83	Douglas	Capilano	at	VIU		
	Camosun	70	at	97	Capilano	Douglas	at	Camosun		
BCCAA WEEK 14 (5th Week for Men's Basketball)						BCCAA WEEK 20 (11th Week for Men's Basketball)				
January 9, 2010						February 19, 2010				
	Camosun		at		Langara	Quest	at	CBC		
						VIU	at	UNBC		
						Douglas	at	Langara		
						Capilano	at	Kwantlen		
						Camosun	at	UBC-O		
January 10, 2010						February 20, 2010				
	Camosun		at		Langara	Quest	at	CBC		
						VIU	at	UNBC		
						Douglas	at	Langara		
						Capilano	at	Kwantlen		
						Camosun	at	UBC-O		
BCCAA WEEK 15 (6th Week for Men's Basketball)										
January 15, 2010										
	UBCO		at		VIU					
	UNBC		at		Camosun					
	Kwantlen		at		Douglas					
	Langara		at		Capilano					
January 16, 2010										
	UBCO		at		VIU					
	UNBC		at		Camosun					
	Kwantlen		at		Douglas					
	Langara		at		Capilano					
Week Ending November 29, 2009										

2009 – 2010						BCCAA British Columbia Colleges' Athletic Association							
Women's Basketball													
<i>W = 2 Points L = 0 Points</i>					GP	W	L	PTS	PF	PA	+/-	Home	Away
1	UBC Okanagan <i>Heat</i>				7	7	0	14	531	291	+240	3 – 0	4 – 0
2	Vancouver Island University <i>Mariners</i>				7	6	1	12	459	330	+129	2 – 1	4 – 0
3	UNBC <i>Timberwolves</i>				7	6	1	12	525	441	+84	2 – 0	4 – 1
4	Camosun College <i>Chargers</i>				7	5	2	10	484	370	+114	1 – 1	4 – 1
5	Capilano University <i>Blues</i>				7	4	3	8	483	427	+56	3 – 3	1 – 0
6	Kwantlen Polytechnic University <i>Eagles</i>				7	4	3	8	436	413	+11	0 – 2	4 – 1
	Quest University Canada <i>Kermodes</i>				8	4	4	8	497	477	+20	2 – 3	2 – 1
	Langara College <i>Falcons</i>				7	0	7	0	380	510	-118	0 – 3	0 – 4
	Douglas College <i>Royals</i>				7	0	7	0	262	503	-241	0 – 7	0 – 0
	Columbia Bible College <i>Bearcats</i>				8	0	8	0	349	644	-295	0 – 4	0 – 4
					4406		4406						
BCCAA WEEK 10 (1st Week for Women's Basketball)					BCCAA WEEK 16 (7th Week for Women's Basketball)								
<i>November 6, 2009</i>					<i>January 22, 2010</i>								
	VIU	55	at	44	Quest				CBC	at		VIU	
	Camosun	84	at	33	CBC				Quest	at		Camosun	
	UNBC	81	at	53	Langara				Kwantlen	at		UNBC	
	UBC-O	62	at	49	Kwantlen				Langara	at		UBC-O	
	Capilano	70	at	51	Douglas				Douglas	at		Capilano	
<i>November 7, 2009</i>					<i>January 23, 2010</i>								
	VIU	69	at	67	Quest				CBC	at		VIU	
	Camosun	84	at	42	CBC				Quest	at		Camosun	
	UNBC	85	at	58	Langara				Kwantlen	at		UNBC	
	UBC-O	60	at	52	Kwantlen				Langara	at		UBC-O	
BCCAA WEEK 11 (2nd Week for Women's Basketball)					BCCAA WEEK 17 (8th Week for Women's Basketball)								
<i>November 13, 2009</i>					<i>January 27, 2010 (Wed.)</i>								
	Quest	68	at	58	Douglas				Quest	at		Capilano	
	CBC	48	at	70	Capilano					at			
	Langara	41	at	66	VIU				Capilano	at		Quest	
	Kwantlen	58	at	52	Camosun				Douglas	at		CBC	
<i>November 14, 2009</i>					<i>January 31, 2010</i>								
	UNBC	59	at	74	UBC-O				VIU	at		Kwantlen	
	Quest	69	at	45	Douglas				UBC-O	at		UNBC	
	CBC	40	at	79	Capilano				Douglas	at		CBC	
	Langara	46	at	79	VIU				VIU	at		Kwantlen	
	Kwantlen	58	at	68	Camosun								
BCCAA WEEK 12 (3rd Week for Women's Basketball)					BCCAA WEEK 18 (9th Week for Women's Basketball)								
<i>November 20, 2009</i>					<i>February 5, 2010</i>								
	Langara	60	at	64	Quest				CBC	at		Langara	
	Kwantlen	72	at	69	CBC				Quest	at		Kwantlen	
	UBC-O	75	at	28	Douglas				Douglas	at		UNBC	
	UNBC	73	at	69	Capilano				VIU	at		Camosun	
<i>November 21, 2009</i>					<i>February 6, 2010</i>								
	Camosun	60	at	49	VIU				CBC	at		Langara	
	Langara	62	at	63	Quest				Quest	at		Kwantlen	
	Kwantlen	75	at	42	CBC				Douglas	at		UNBC	
	UBC-O	80	at	28	Douglas				Capilano	at		UBC-O	
	UNBC	79	at	65	Capilano								
<i>February 7, 2010</i>					<i>February 7, 2010</i>								
					Capilano				at			UBC-O	
BCCAA WEEK 13 (4th Week for Women's Basketball)					BCCAA WEEK 19 (10th Week for Women's Basketball)								
<i>November 27, 2009</i>					<i>February 12, 2010</i>								
	Quest	60	at	72	UNBC				UNBC	at		CBC	
	CBC	36	at	85	UBC-O				Capilano	at		VIU	
	VIU	70	at	42	Douglas				Douglas	at		Camosun	
	Camosun	72	at	75	Capilano				Langara	at		Kwantlen	
	Kwantlen	72	at	60	Langara								
<i>November 28, 2009</i>					<i>February 13, 2010</i>								
	Quest	62	at	76	UNBC				UBC-O	at		Quest	
	CBC	39	at	95	UBC-O				UNBC	at		CBC	
	VIU	71	at	30	Douglas				Capilano	at		VIU	
	Camosun	64	at	55	Capilano				Douglas	at		Camosun	
<i>February 14, 2010</i>					<i>February 14, 2010</i>								
					UBC-O				at			Quest	
BCCAA WEEK 14 (5th Week for Women's Basketball)					BCCAA WEEK 20 (11th Week for Women's Basketball)								
<i>January 9, 2010</i>					<i>February 19, 2010</i>								
	Camosun		at	Langara					Quest	at		CBC	
									VIU	at		UNBC	
									Douglas	at		Langara	
									Capilano	at		Kwantlen	
									Camosun	at		UBC-O	
<i>January 10, 2010</i>					<i>February 20, 2010</i>								
	Camosun		at	Langara					Quest	at		CBC	
									VIU	at		UNBC	
									Douglas	at		Langara	
									Capilano	at		Kwantlen	
									Camosun	at		UBC-O	
BCCAA WEEK 15 (6th Week for Women's Basketball)													
<i>January 15, 2010</i>													
	UBCO		at	VIU									
	UNBC			Camosun									
	Kwantlen		at	Douglas									
	Langara		at	Capilano									
<i>January 16, 2010</i>													
	UBCO		at	VIU									
	UNBC			Camosun									
	Kwantlen		at	Douglas									
	Langara		at	Capilano									
Week Ending November 29, 2009													



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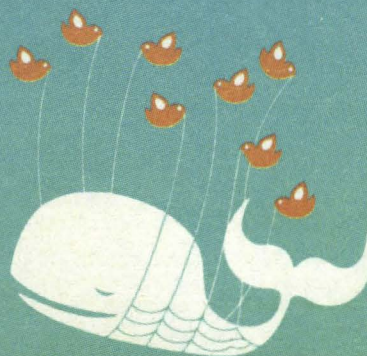
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